

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

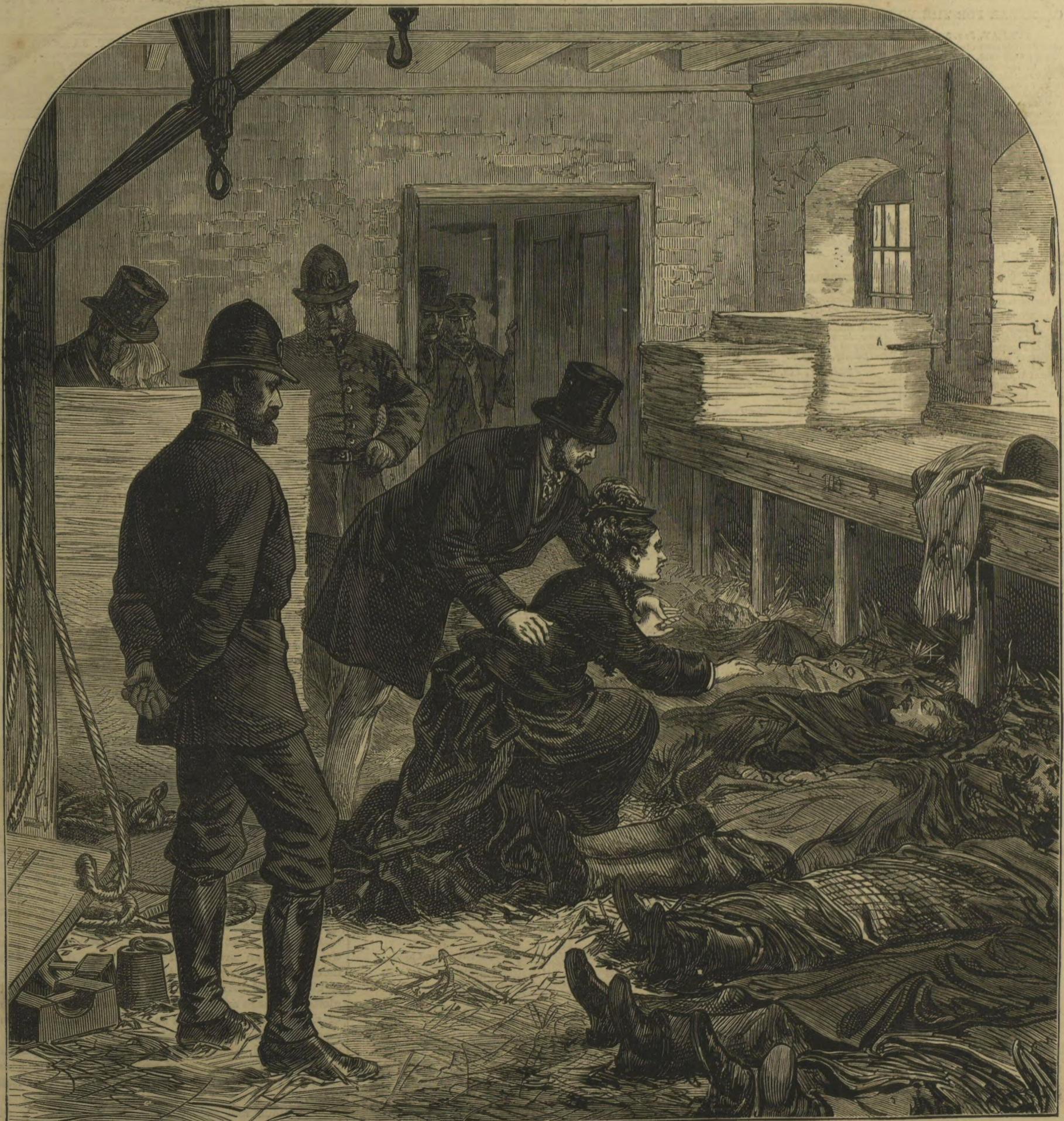


REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 1847.—VOL. LXVI.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1875.

WITH SIXPENCE.
EXTRA SUPPLEMENT { BY POST, 6d.



THE TERRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT SHIPTON-ON-CHERWELL: IDENTIFYING THE DEAD AT HAMPTON GAY PAPER-MILL.

BIRTHS.

On Nov. 16, at the Berea, D'Urban, Port Natal, South Africa, the wife of Archibald Findlay, Esq., of a daughter.
On Christmas Day, at The Waldrons, Croydon, Surrey, the wife of Nicholas John Ryle, of a daughter.
On the 24th ult., at Newfield House, Lower Darwen, the wife of Lawrence Hargreaves Wraith, Esq., of a daughter.
On the 27th ult., at Lingdale Bickley, Kent, the wife of Edward Humphrys, of a daughter.
On the 23rd ult., at Banningbourne Fleet, the wife of Captain the Hon. H. Crichton, 21st Hussars, of a son.
On the 22nd ult., at 11, Champion-place, Upper Clapton, the wife of Edmund Walton, Esq., of a daughter.
On the 22nd ult., at Florence Court, Viscountess Cole, prematurely, of a daughter.
On the 26th ult., at Portland-place, Lady Lyttelton, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 1st ult., at St. Stephen's, Kidderminster, Calcutta, by the Rev. F. R. Michell, Bengal Chaplain, the Rev. Robert John Langford, M.A., Chaplain of Akyab, B. Burmah, to Jane Eliza Lillias, youngest daughter of Frederick Taylor, Esq., of 38, Avenue-road, Regent's Park.

On the 17th ult., at St. Andrew's Church, Leighton, Gloucestershire, by the Rev. John Balfour Clutterbuck, Rector, assisted by the Rev. C. F. Clutterbuck, Rector of Onleworth, William Henry Cresswell, Esq., of Finkley Park, Wilts, to Marie Catherine Labeille.

DEATHS.

On Nov. 28 last, at Port-aux-Prince, Frederick, fourth and youngest child of Henry Byron, Esq., H.M.'s Vice-Consul in Hayti, aged 5 years.

On the 16th ult., at The Widness, Eltham, Kent, Joseph Brindley, Esq., aged 45.

On the 26th ult., at 4, Coates-place, Edinburgh, Mary Ann, third daughter of the late Mr. James Scott, in the 36th year of her age. Friends will please accept this intimation.

On the 3rd ult., at Lisbon, Commissary-General John Laidley, in his 93th year.

On Nov. 20, at Ceara, Brazil, Herbert B. Murray, C.E. Canadian papers please copy.

On Sept. 20, 1874, at Toronto, Canada (very suddenly), Thomas, second son of the late John Paxford Shaw, Esq., formerly of Haywood Park, Staffordshire, England, aged 43 years.

* * * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING JAN. 9, 1875.

SUNDAY, JAN. 3. Second Sunday after Christmas. St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., the Rev. C. Mackenzie, Prebendary; 3.15 p.m., the Rev. Canon Lightfoot; 7 p.m., the Rev. Dr. Miller. Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m., the Rev. Archdeacon Jennings; 3 p.m., the Very Rev. Dean Stanley. St. James's, noon, the Rev. Francis Garden, Sub-Dean of the Chapel Royal. Whitehall, 11 a.m., the Rev. William Erskine Knollys, Rector of Saltwood, near Hythe.

Savoy, 11.30 a.m., the Rev. Henry White, Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen; 7 p.m., the Rev. Dr. Farrar, Master of Marlborough College.

Temple Church, 11 a.m., the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Master of the Temple; 3 p.m., the Rev. A. Ainger, Reader at the Temple. French Anglican Church of St. John (La Savoy), Bloomsbury-street, services in French, 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m., by the Rev. F. B. W. Bouvier, Incumbent.

MONDAY, JAN. 4. Royal Academy, opening of Exhibition of Old Masters, &c. Society of Painters in Water Colours, opening of Winter Exhibition. Week of United Prayer, meetings daily at Willis's Rooms, 11 a.m. Musical Association, 5 p.m. (Mr. T. Baillie Hamilton on the Application of Wind to String Instruments). Entomological Society, 7 p.m. Royal Institute of British Architects, 8 p.m. (paper by Mr. J. J. Stevenson). Medical Society, 8 p.m. (Lettoman Lecture, Mr. C. F. Mauder on the Surgery of the Arteries).

Victoria Institute, 8 p.m. (Mr. J. E. Howard on the Early Dawn of Civilisation considered in the Light of Scripture).

London Institution, 5 p.m. (Professor Armstrong on the Life History of Plants and Animals).

Hospital Sunday, 1875: public meeting at the Mansion House, 2.30 p.m. Royal School of Mines, evening lectures to working men begin, 8 p.m. (Professor Ramsay on Geology).

TUESDAY, JAN. 5. Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Gladstone on the Voltaic Battery). Geological Society (anniversary), 8 p.m. St. Paul's Cathedral, lecture to men, 8 p.m. (the Rev. Dr. Hessey on Pilgrimages and Crusades in Reference to the Present Time).

SATURDAY, JAN. 9. Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Gladstone on the Voltaic Battery).

Royal Horticultural Society, promenade, 2 p.m. London Ballad Concert, St. James's Hall, 3 p.m.

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF			THERMOM.		WIND.		General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 a.m. next morning.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 a.m. next morning.	Wind at 10 a.m. next morning.
	Barometer Corrected	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount.	Minimum.	Maximum.				
16	29.666	32.3	28.1	86	9	31.0	33.8	SSE. NNE.	455	.040	
17	29.650	33.2	29.1	87	6	29.0	35.4	NNE. N.	343	.000	
18	29.144	32.6	27.3	82	6	30.5	36.6	N. NW.	171	.085	
19	29.756	34.2	31.0	89	6	30.4	39.7	WSW. WNW. N.	190	.000	
20	29.499	32.7	27.6	88	—	26.6	36.8	WNW.	232	.000	
21	29.527	30.7	25.5	88	7	29.1	34.5	WNW. W.	94	.000	
22	29.796	26.6	26.4	99	10	21.3	30.3	NW. NNE.	111	.000	
23	29.600	21.5	21.5	100	—	19.0	24.8	NNE. NW. NW.	190	.050	
24	29.488	32.9	32.7	99	10	21.3	36.8	S. SSE. NW.	110	.000	
25	29.752	33.9	32.1	94	10	33.2	36.0	NW. N.	147	.000	
26	29.605	30.3	29.8	98	10	27.0	33.8	NNW. NW.	67	.000	
27	30.175	30.9	28.9	93	—	29.5	33.6	NW. N.	83	.020	
28	29.234	31.6	30.6	97	10	27.4	32.8	NNW. ENE.	197	.117	
29	29.206	25.2	21.2	87	6	25.7	32.6	ESE.	175	.000	

* Melted snow. † Rain and melted snow.

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten a.m. —

DEC. 15 TO DEC. 22.	29.678	30.054	30.204	29.931	29.554	29.321	29.780
Temperature of Air	32.0°	33.2°	33.7°	37.3°	32.1°	30.4°	27.8°
Temperature of Evaporation	30.9°	31.8°	31.7°	35.0°	30.1°	28.6°	27.8°
Direction of Wind	B.	N.	WNW.	WNW.	N.	N.	ESE.
DEC. 23 TO DEC. 29.	30.005	29.498	29.753	30.004	30.153	30.246	30.221
Barometer (inches) corrected	29.678	29.498	29.753	30.004	30.153	30.246	30.221
Temperature of Air	20.0°	34.6°	33.9°	29.2°	31.2°	32.2°	27.5°
Temperature of Evaporation	19.9°	33.7°	33.1°	28.8°	30.5°	31.6°	26.0°
Direction of Wind	W.	SE.	Calm	Calm	WNW.	SW.	ESE.

Barometer (inches) corrected

Temperature of Air

Temperature of Evaporation

Direction of Wind

Now Publishing,

THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER
OF THE
ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS,
CONSISTING OF
TWO SHEETS OF TALES
AND
ILLUSTRATIONS,
AND
TWO COLOURED PICTURES,
ENTITLED
THE SQUIRE'S DAUGHTER
AND
THE COTTER'S CHILD.

The TALES and SKETCHES are by Richard D. Blackmore, George Augustus Sala, and others.

The ILLUSTRATIONS are drawn by Sir John Gilbert, A.R.A., S. Read, A. Hunt, C. Robinson, F. Barnard, and others.

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OFFICE: 198, Strand.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The Christmas Number this year is published apart from the usual weekly issue, and it is therefore optional with the Subscribers to take it or not.

"Waes Hael!"

THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER
OF
THE ILLUSTRATED
SPORTING & DRAMATIC NEWS,
NOW PUBLISHING,
comprises
TWO SHEETS OF
PICTURES, POEMS, TALES, SKETCHES, &c.,
OF SPORT, ADVENTURE, AND THE DRAMA.

The ILLUSTRATIONS include one by H. S. MARKS, A.R.A., entitled "WAES HÆL!"

A Two-Page Engraving, "THE OVERTURE," from a Picture by W. HOLYOAKE; and many others by Artists of note.

Amongst the numerous Writers are Mrs. E. Lynn Linton, Joachim Miller, Captain Mayne Reid, and E. A. Sothern (Lord Dundreary).

PRICE ONE SHILLING;
By post, Fourteenpence.

Published by THOMAS FOX, 198, Strand, London, W.C.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 9, 1875.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
10.57	11.10	11.39	12.00	12.30	12.51	13.02

CRYSTAL PALACE.—THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES will be continued daily during Week ending JAN. 9, 1875. Preliminary Entertainments at 12.30, comprising Food by Arabin, Adelio, Performers, Dogs, Celtic Ballet, M. Journe's "Aeolian" Organ, A. 3. E. Tambourine, ONDRELLA, by E. L. Blanchard, Esq., Scenery by Messrs. Fenton and Enden; Transformation Scene, "A Fairy's Wedding," by Mr. Charles Brew; Ballet by M. Espinosa. Music by Oscar H. Barrett. Characters by the Paynes, Misses Caroline Parkes, Emmeline Cole, Annie Thirlwall, Alice Mansfield, Aynsley Cook, &c. Clown, Mr. Harry Payne. The whole produced under the direction of Mr. T. H. Friend, the Company's Stage Manager. Numbered Stalls, Half a Crown, may be booked in advance. Monday to Friday, One Shilling; Saturday, Half a Crown, or by Guinea Season Ticket.

S. T. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY. The HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT of the MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS once again pronounced the MOST SUCCESSFUL in LONDON.

The enormous attendances each Day and Night since the 28th ult. altogether unparalleled since the erection of the Hall.

ON BOXING DAY NEARLY EIGHT THOUSAND PERSONS Paid for Admission to the Two Performances, and some thousands had to relinquish the attempt to gain admission one hour prior to the commencement of the performances.

ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY AFTERNOON, despite the inclemency of the weather, THE VAST HALL WAS AGAIN THRONGED IN EVERY PART, and thousands turned away.

THE NEW AND BRILLIANTLY-SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMME will be repeated EVERY NIGHT AT EIGHT, and on

MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND SATURDAY AFTERNOONS AT THREE. Doors open for the Day Performances at 2.30; Evening Ditto, 7.30. No Fees.

justice be described as having been inactive. As compared with that of the two or three foregoing years, it showed, in some branches, unmistakable symptoms of temporary decline. Extravagant prices have exhibited a tendency to droop towards moderation, high wages to sink to a lower level, the national revenue to stay its progressive expansion, and the collisions between employers and employed to be less keen and obstinate. The twelvemonth cannot very decisively be characterised as either prosperous or the reverse. For people of moderate means and fixed incomes it has, perhaps, been a little easier than 1873—not quite so exacting; but businesses in which large capital is invested have not been so remunerative. Patience, economy, and watchfulness have been under requisition from the beginning to the end of the year; but, as a general rule, immediate prospects have never been flattering.

The incidents and accidents of 1874 have been—some of them, at any rate—of a kind to stimulate the liveliest public interest. The close of the Tichborne trial, after one of the most protracted legal investigations ever known in this country, released the attention of newspaper readers from a daily requisition far more onerous than profitable, and handed over Arthur Orton to a term of punishment which, although severe, seemed to most people to have been richly deserved. The fact has been specified thus early that it may be eliminated from others of a more agreeable tenour. The marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh to the only daughter of Alexander II. of Russia, the enthusiastic welcome given by the English people to the Royal and Imperial pair at their home-coming, the subsequent visit of the Emperor, and the ceremony in the presence of the Queen and Empress of a Royal christening, greatly pleased the British people, mainly because it was naturally inferred that they must have infused new sweetness into the domestic life of our sovereign lady, with the fortunes of whose family all her subjects keenly sympathise. This is the bright side of the picture presented to our remembrance by the year just expired. It has had also its tragical scenes. We cannot pretend to furnish a list of them, nor even to give an approximate estimate of their number. We can only find room to say that A.D. 1874 will be painfully memorable to those who come after us, if only for the gunpowder explosion on the Regent's Canal; the railway collision at Thorpe, near Norwich; the fearful overturn of a train at Shipton; the loss of the La Plata steamer, off the Bay of Biscay; and the destruction by fire of the emigrant-ship Cospatrick, about midway on her passage to New Zealand.

Domestic politics took a strange and sudden turn soon after the commencement of the year. Before January was well out, and after Parliament had been summoned for the dispatch of business, the public was beyond measure startled, one morning, by the appearance in the daily prints of an address from the Prime Minister to his Greenwich constituents announcing an immediately pending dissolution of Parliament, to be followed forthwith by a general election, and sketching a highly attractive financial programme. The electorate of the United Kingdom responded to the stolen march in an equally unexpected fashion by returning a large Conservative majority, and thereby, in effect, ousting the Liberal Administration from office. The new Parliament met early in March, and continued sitting, with brief intervals at Easter and Whitsuntide, till the second week in August. Down to the end of June the Session was quiet, not to say languid. Sir Stafford Northcote, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, distributed the immense surplus bequeathed to him by his official predecessor among various interests with judicious impartiality and in carefully measured proportions. Mr. Cross, the Home Secretary, pestered for some weeks over Lord Aberdare's much abused Licensing Act with a view to its amendment; but it remained questionable whether, after all the pains he spent upon it, he had not made more holes in it than he had stopped. A Factory Bill, borrowed from Mr. Mundella, and adopted by the Government, was passed to the satisfaction or with the acquiescence of the classes chiefly concerned. Legislation continued to creep on amicably with the tolerance of a headless Opposition, until the Vice-President of the Council introduced a decidedly reactionary measure affecting the Endowed Schools Commission and their work, by a still more reactionary speech. This indiscretion provoked a strenuous stand-up fight, when Mr. Disraeli, finding that a considerable section of his supporters disapproved of the scheme, suddenly, but without his customary tact, withdrew its most offensive provisions. This contest, however, together with the passing of two essentially ecclesiastical measures, the Scotch Church Patronage Abolition Bill and the Public Worship Regulation Bill, brought down from the Lords, so far impeded the valuable measures of law reform initiated by Lord Cairns that they were abandoned for the Session.

Out of Parliament we have nothing striking to note, except the arrival of tidings that the great South African explorer, Dr. Livingstone, was dead, the bringing of his body and his journals by his faithful followers to Zanzibar, and the burial of his honoured remains in Westminster Abbey; the rise, spread, and ultimate collapse of the agricultural lock-out; and the rapid and alarming increase of crimes of brutality.

Turning now from home affairs to the vast outlying portions of the British empire, our attention is first

caught by India. About this time a twelvemonth ago, we were all trembling in apprehension of a famine threatening to be so gigantic in proportions as to defy the most strenuous efforts of the wisest statesmanship. We are able now to uplift a shout of triumph. A famine has, indeed, passed over Bengal, and might have laid prostrate millions of the teeming population of that province. Its presence evoked the utmost energies of its rulers, who finally beat off the terrible foe at a loss of life quite trifling in comparison of that which the least hopeful had anticipated. It was a grand work of organised mercy, and the success of it may well make Englishmen proud. There is, perhaps, no topic in connection with our policy during the year which, at its close, this country can look back upon with more justifiable complacency. The negotiations between Canada and the United States for a Reciprocity Treaty brought to view at one time some points of danger to our commerce. Doubtless they would have been guarded against by the Government at home; but, for the present, the whole question has been adjourned by the extensive political changes effected by the electoral constituencies in the great American Republic. There have been troubles in Natal, involving, we fear, great injustice to a Kaffir tribe and its chief located on a border of that colony. We have reason to believe, however, that the trouble has now ceased; and that by the magnanimous agency of the Bishop of Natal the injustice will be repaired. During the year the group of the Fiji Islands has been added to her Majesty's dominions, and the settlements on the Gold Coast have been placed under new regulations, which, it is hoped, will develop trade and extinguish domestic slavery in those parts.

Foreign politics have presented some features of interest. Amongst them we place the war with the Ashantees, conducted with such masterly ability by Sir Garnet Wolseley, and brought to a close after the burning of Coomassie, within so nicely-calculated an interval of time that an error of two or three days might altogether have marred the great object of the expedition. It was a fight against climatic influences as well as against a warlike and ferocious nation; and British bravery, hand in hand with science, proved superior to both. Europe has been agitated, but its peace remains undisturbed, except in that northern strip of Spain where the Carlists still hold their ground against the national forces. But uneasiness has pervaded most of the Continental States, and all of them are increasing, at a vast expense, their defensive preparations. The irreconcilable animosities of political parties in France, the fall of the De Broglie Cabinet, the inorganised condition of the Septennate, the progresses of Marshal MacMahon in Brittany and the north-western departments, the escape of Marshal Bazaine, and the death of M. Guizot, will call up to the recollection of the reader some of the more prominent passages which belong to the annals of that great country for the past year. Nor has Germany been at ease. The attempted assassination of Prince Bismarck, Ultramontane prosecutions, and the trial of Count Arnim have kept the Empire incessantly before the eyes of the world. Italy stands her ground, and even makes progress. Spain, under the Serrano Government, although recognised by all Powers save Russia, continues to sink deeper into the mire, and to disappoint even the least sanguine hopes of her best friends.

We must conclude. Our back is turned to the past, our face is towards the future. Our first duty, as well as our great pleasure, is now to wish all our readers "A Happy New Year."

"The Squire's Daughter" was one of a pair of child-pictures which formed the Coloured Illustrations for our Christmas Supplement. It was printed in colours from a painting by Mrs. Crawford. The companion picture, that of "The Cotter's Daughter," was by Mr. Holmes.

The fashion of publishing collective works of popular literature in a series of little volumes ranged within a box or casket seems to gain public favour. It was commenced, if we mistake not, by Messrs. Bradbury and Evans, with their "Handy Volume Shakespeare," about seven years ago. The poems of Tennyson, and more than one collection of tales or essays by contemporary authors, have been issued in this form. We are much pleased with the appearance of "The Handy Volume Edition of the Bible," which Messrs. Bradbury, Agnew, and Co., of Bouvierie-street, have just sent forth. It consists of eleven volumes, measuring about five inches by three, and little more than half an inch thick. The type is fair and clear, and not too small. The sacred text is accompanied by 50,000 marginal notes, or references to other passages, which have been carefully selected. A short preface to each main portion of the Scriptures explains the history of the book.

The Right Hon. W. E. Forster, M.P., shortly before leaving America, delivered a speech at the Union Club in New York, long reports of which are contained in the American papers. Referring to the civil war, he said that, had the South been successful, an era of sectional jealousies and standing armies would have been inaugurated, and the system of slavery still have been in existence. He was specially applauded when he expressed his admiration of the disposition manifested on both sides to forget the enmity which prevailed during the struggle.

Mr. Forster afterwards dwelt at some length upon the resemblance between the political institutions of Great Britain and America. There was a difference in the form of government, but the same principle was at work in both countries, and that principle was the necessity of obedience to the will of the people. Upon this the Government and the Parliament were constituted in America, as in this country. In conclusion, Mr. Forster expressed his hope that a close alliance might be formed between the United States and the English-speaking communities, and that their friendship might influence the world by showing the value of popular government when self-control prevails among the people.

THE COURT.

The Queen, on Christmas Eve, distributed gifts to the children of the Whippingham school and others upon the Osborne estate. Her Majesty, Princess Beatrice, and the Duke of Connaught entered the servants' hall at four o'clock, where the gifts were laid out, and where the ladies and gentlemen in waiting, the Hon. Lady Biddulph, Lady Cowell, and Mrs. Prothero were assembled. The Queen handed a present to each child, and Princess Beatrice and the Duke of Connaught afterwards distributed gifts from a Christmas-tree.

On Christmas Day the Queen, Princess Beatrice, and the Duke of Connaught attended Divine service at Whippingham church. The Rev. George Prothero and the Rev. J. Grey officiated. Her Majesty drove through Newport and West Cowes on the following day. Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas and the Hon. Lady Biddulph dined with the Queen.

On Sunday her Majesty, Princess Beatrice, and the Duke of Connaught attended Divine service, performed at Osborne by the Rev. George Connor, M.A., Vicar of Newport. The Rev. George Connor dined with the Queen.

The Queen has walked and driven out daily, and Princess Beatrice and the Duke of Connaught have had excellent skating.

Her Majesty has appointed the Marquis of Exeter to the post of Custos Rotulorum of the Soke of Peterborough, vacant by the death of Lord Kesteven.

The Queen has, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, granted the sum of £50 from the Royal Bounty Fund to the widow of Mr. C. M. Clelland, late an officer of the special telegraphic staff of the Post Office.

Her Majesty's Royal bounty to the poor of the metropolis and its environs was distributed at the Almonry-Office, in Middle Scotland-yard, Whitehall, on the 18th and 19th ult., to the clergymen who co-operate with the Lord High Almoner, and the alms were continued to be distributed on Monday and Tuesday in the current week to the applicants previously recommended by the clergy in the various localities in and about London. The number of persons who were relieved in sums of 5s. and 10s. each exceeded 1000, the majority of the recipients exceeding sixty years of age, among whom were many blind and otherwise afflicted.

The Queen's New-Year's gifts to the poor of New Windsor, Holy Trinity, and Clewer, were presented on New-Year's Day to the recipients at the Riding-School of Windsor Castle.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales's Christmas gifts were distributed on Christmas Eve at Sandringham to every labouring family on the Royal estate, whether employed by his Royal Highness or otherwise; 200 families thus received gifts of beef, &c., apportioned according to the number of the various families. The distribution took place in the dining-hall of the Royal mews, in the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales and their family, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, and the members of the Royal household.

The Prince and Princess, Prince Albert Victor and Prince George of Wales, and the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh attended Divine service on Christmas Day at Sandringham church. Count Schouvaloff arrived on the following day.

On Sunday the Prince and Princess, Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, and the Russian Ambassador attended Divine service at Sandringham church. The Rev. W. Lake Onslow and the Rev. J. N. Dalton, M.A., officiated and administered the holy communion. The members of the Royal family at Sandringham enjoy daily both skating and sleighing.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh left on Monday for Holkham Hall, on a visit to the Earl of Leicester. The Russian Ambassador also left, and Prince and Princess Christian arrived at Sandringham.

Captain the Duke of Connaught returned to barracks at Norwich on Monday, after passing the Christmas with the Queen at Osborne. His Royal Highness, with Lieutenant-Colonel Hale and the officers of the 7th Hussars, gave a ball on Wednesday night at the Assembly Rooms, Norwich, at which the élite of the county, the officers of numerous regiments, and the Mayor and Sheriffs of the city were present.

The Duchess of Cambridge has been suffering severe indisposition, and is still in delicate health.

His Excellency Count Schouvaloff left the Russian Embassy on Monday, to join the Royal party visiting the Earl of Leicester at Holkham.

The Duke and Duchess of Marlborough and the Ladies Rosamond and Sarah Spencer Churchill have left Blenheim Palace for a tour on the Continent.

The Duke and Duchess of Cleveland and Lady Mary Primrose have arrived at Battle Abbey.

The Marquis of Exeter has arrived in Paris.

His Excellency the German Ambassador has sent a supply of game for the patients of the German Hospital, Dalston.

Lady Abercromby has sent to the Cancer Hospital, at Brompton, a hamper of pheasants, fowls, partridges, grapes, jellies, and new-laid eggs, as well as two easy-chairs for the use of the inmates.

The Right Hon. the Premier attained his sixty-ninth year on Thursday.

The coming of age of Mr. Richard Sutton, eldest son of Sir Richard Sutton, Bart., of Benham Park, near Newbury, was the occasion of much rejoicing last week.

TRANSIT OF VENUS.

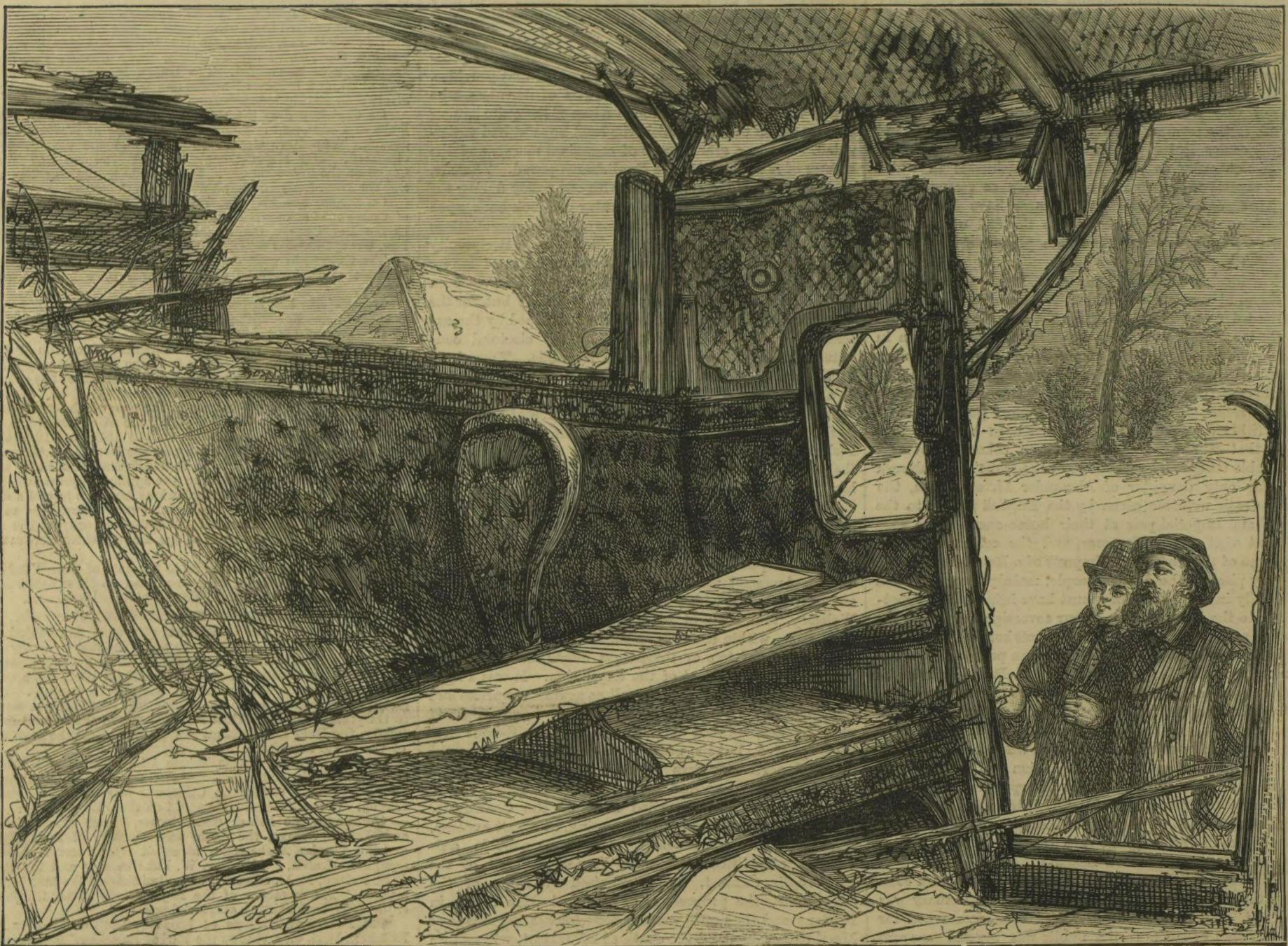
Lord Lindsay has telegraphed a report of his observation of the transit of Venus at the Mauritius. The last half, he says, was very satisfactory. Good photographs were obtained, also measures and time determination. His Lordship is altogether well satisfied.

A telegram to the Astronomer Royal states that the observation of the transit of Venus at the station in New Zealand has been singularly successful as regards the first contact. Two hundred and thirty-seven photographs have been obtained of the transit. The American astronomer, Professor Peters, was also successful in his observation of the transit of Venus. The German expedition to the Auckland Isles achieved satisfactory results.

Intelligence received at New York announces that the observation of the transit of Venus made by the British astronomical party at Honolulu has been successful, except as regards the photographs, which failed.

The Dutch Government has received advices from the Dutch expedition sent to Reunion for observing the transit of Venus. The sky being cloudy, the expedition was only partially successful.

A life-size portrait of Alderman Philip Johnson, J.P., presented by a number of his friends to the Belfast Corporation, was unveiled last week by the Mayor (Mr. James Alexander Henderson, J.P.) in the Council Chamber, in the presence of a large and influential assemblage of gentlemen. Mr. Richard Hooke, of Manchester, was the artist.



THE TERRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT SHIPTON-ON-CHERWELL: A FIRST-CLASS CARRIAGE AFTER THE ACCIDENT.

CAMEO OF THE EMPEROR CLAUDIUS.

In the Gem-Room of the British Museum may now be seen one of the finest cameos in the world, which is the chief ornament of the Royal collection of gems at Windsor, and is, by the kind permission of her Majesty, lent to the Museum for exhibition. It is a sardonyx of unusual size and beauty, representing the Emperor Claudius, and is equally remarkable for the quality of the material, a sardonyx of five layers, and the bold and masterly modelling, in which, as in size, it surpasses the Blacas Augustus, up to this time the finest cameo in the collection of the British Museum. It appears from a MS. note in the margin of the copy of Vertue's catalogue of the Royal collection of gems at Windsor that the Clandius was in that collection as early as the time of Charles I., when it was unfortunately let fall by Lady Somerset, wife of the then Lord Chamberlain, and was broken into many fragments. The re-joining process has very much impaired its beauty by seaming the surface with many joints.

GOING TO MIDNIGHT MASS.

The history of France in the sixteenth century, to which belongs this scene of a religious congregation thronging to the nocturnal observance of worship in the Roman Catholic form of ritual, has been made a battle-field of party strife. The wars of the Huguenots with the Catholic League, headed by the Duke of Guise and his brother, the Cardinal, were far more destructive of national prosperity than the English Civil War of the next following century; and it may be questioned if the failure to maintain constitutional freedom and to promote the spread of pure Christianity among the French people, with all the revolutions that have overthrown so many governments in that country, may not be traced to the miscarriage of its Protestant Reformation. This was due in a great measure to the errors of its political leaders, but in some degree also to the fiercely intolerant and fanatical spirit of the zealous Huguenots and to the in-



CAMEO PORTRAIT OF THE EMPEROR CLAUDIUS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

ternal dissensions of their party. There was on both sides a large amount of sincere religious feeling in the minds of less aggressive members of each communion; and the streets of Paris witnessed many a scene like that which is shown in the picture we have engraved, when they prayed for the victory in a fratricidal strife, not perceiving the inconsistency of such petitions and conduct.

MR. T. WOOLNER, R.A.

Since the lamented death of Mr. Foley it is generally considered that the leading English sculptor is Mr. Thomas Woolner, R.A. He is forty-nine years of age, and a native of Hadleigh, near Ipswich. Among the statues executed by him are those of Lord Bacon and the late Prince Consort, for the University of Oxford; that of Lord Macaulay, for Trinity College, Cambridge; that of Mr. G. R. Godley, founder of the Canterbury Settlement in New Zealand; that of King William III., for the Palace of Westminster; and those of Lord Lawrence, for Calcutta, of Sir Bartle Frere and Sir David Sassoon for Bombay, and of the Rev. Dr. Whewell, for Cambridge. His busts, which are remarkable for their strong individuality of portraiture and forcible expression of character, include those of Tennyson, Maurice, Carlyle, Dr. Newman, Mr. Gladstone, and other eminent men of our day. Some of his productions belong to the department of ideal sculpture, but in this department he will scarcely be ranked so high as several other living artists. Mr. Woolner is also a poet, and has published a volume entitled "My Beautiful Lady," which was received with a certain degree of approval.

The East India Association has presented a memorial to Lord Salisbury, calling his attention to the disadvantage at which natives of India are placed in obtaining nominations for the Public Works Department by competitive examination. It requests that the authorities in India may be allowed to appoint natives to any office or employment, subject to such regulations as may be made by the Governor-General in Council.



GOING TO MIDNIGHT MASS IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY IN FRANCE.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Thursday, Dec. 31.

The National Assembly has separated for its new-year holidays, and will only meet again on Jan. 5, when, after Count Joubert's bill on higher class education has been disposed of, the long-talked-of constitutional measures are to be taken up. The proposal for the establishment of a Senate appears to meet with so much opposition in political circles that it will very likely be abandoned, the Government concentrating all its efforts to obtain from the Assembly a new electoral law and the investiture of the chief of the State with the right of dissolution. The Ministry seems to consider that it will be able to secure a Parliamentary majority on these points, and with this view is busy negotiating with the various fractions of the Conservative party. The extreme Right still remains, however, very hostile towards the Government, and has declined to co-operate with it unless positive instructions come from Frohsdorff to that effect. Several members of this group are reported to have left Paris with the view of ascertaining the wishes and opinions of the Count de Chambord on the subject. Rumours have been current throughout the week of various important Ministerial changes; but these reports are all formally contradicted by the semi-official journals, which state that the present Ministry will only retire should there be an adverse vote in connection with the Constitutional laws.

Among the measures passed by the National Assembly previous to its adjournment one may mention a law conferring a mixed kind of a constitution, half military, half civil, upon Algeria; in addition to which it voted a bill authorising the city of Paris to contract a loan of 220 millions of francs. On the day preceding its adjournment there was an exciting debate in the Chamber apropos of the Committee of Appeal to the People and its illegal participation in the election in the Nièvre. The discussion, in which MM. Picard and Rouher took part—the former speaking on behalf of the Left, and the latter defending the conduct of the Bonapartist committee—culminated in the Assembly ordering a Parliamentary inquiry, which will be set on foot immediately after the vacation. There had already been a judicial inquiry into the matter, but the Juge d'Instruction and the Procureur-Général engaged in investigating the charges against the committee had come to the conclusion that no legal offence had been committed.

This decision, however, did not satisfy the Bureau of the Assembly charged with reporting on the Nièvre—which, it will be remembered, terminated in the return of the Imperialist candidate, Baron de Bourgoing—and they demanded communication of all the documents relating to the affair. The request was refused by M. Tailhau, the Minister of Justice, who espoused the cause of the Bonapartists, and a regular battle took place between him and the Bureau. The latter eventually called the attention of the Assembly to the matter, with the result chronicled above. It was at one moment said that Baron de Bourgoing intended resigning his seat, with the view of preventing further complications; but he has now resolved to retain it until the close of the inquiry. In accordance with the rules of the Assembly, he will not, however, be able to take part in any further votes before his election has been regularly validated. The general impression is that he owes his return entirely to the undue influence of the so-called Committee of Accounts, in which case the Assembly will have to annul the election.

Marshal MacMahon receives the Corps Diplomatique and the high State officials this afternoon at the Elysée Palace; and to-morrow he will visit President Buffet at Versailles, subsequently holding a reception at the Prefecture there, at which the Bureau of the National Assembly will present him with the customary New-Year compliments.

The inauguration of the New Opera—which, it appears, is to be a state affair, the Government having requisitioned the House—is now fixed for Jan. 6, and MM. Halanzier and Garnier are busy putting the final touches to this gorgeous edifice. Paris was disagreeably surprised a short time ago by the attempts of M. de Villemessant, of the *Figaro*, to convert it into a *bureau d'abonnement*, and the Minister of Fine Arts had to interfere. Great alterations have been made in the illumination of the house, which had called forth great complaints, but which it is now thought will be satisfactory.

SPAIN.

An engagement has taken place near Roda, in La Mancha, between Republicans and Carlists; and the latter, who were commanded by the Curé Albacou, were defeated, with a loss of thirty men.

Martinez Campo, a partisan of Don Alphonso, has made a military pronunciamento in Valencia, and Republican troops have been sent against him.

A despatch received at Paris from Madrid of Thursday morning's date announces that Prince Alphonso has been proclaimed King of Spain, and recognised by all the armies of the North and Centre.

According to the official Carlist organ, Marshal Espartero, Duke of Vittoria, the famous Spanish general and politician, is dead; but the news is not confirmed from any other quarter.

PORTUGAL.

The Cortes will be opened to-day (Saturday).

ITALY.

King Victor Emmanuel has paid a visit to the Empress of Russia at San Remo. Her Majesty has improved in health.

M. de Corcelles, the French Ambassador at Rome, was the first of the diplomatic corps there to offer the usual new-year's congratulations to the Pope, and was treated with marked attention. His Holiness has also given a reception to those Roman nobles who support his sovereignty.

The *Diritto* says the Pope has taken up a project, which he formed many years ago, of placing twelve statues round the cupola of St. Peter's, in accordance with the idea of Michael Angelo. Twelve sculptors are to be charged each with the execution of a statue; but they are not to be chosen by public competition, nor will any artist be eligible for the work who was not domiciled in Rome prior to 1870, or who has manifested any opposition to the cause of Holy Church.

Judgment has been given by the Assize Court at Rome on two persons who had been concerned in the poisoning of General Carlo Gibbone. One of them, Ricca, was sentenced to death, and his accomplice, Comanducci, was condemned to fifteen years' penal servitude.

GERMANY.

The Emperor has presented his portrait in lifesize as a Christmas gift to the King of Italy. The portrait represents his Majesty in General's uniform, with the insignia of the Italian Order of the Annunziata.

Count Armin's sentence has been appealed against by the Public Prosecutor, not because it inflicts the minimum penalty, but for the purpose of obtaining a modification of the grounds on which judgment was given. The Count has lodged an appeal in his own behalf.

The German *Official Gazette* publishes, from the list of documents read at the secret sitting of the Armin trial, a circular issued by the Imperial Chancellor, on May 14, 1872, on the subject of the next Papal election. The *Gazette*, in some introductory remarks, says the Government cannot at all regard itself as authorised to give publicity to confidential or secret communications from other Powers. So long, however, as the interests affected are such as only concern Germany, everything may be brought to light without injury to Germany's foreign relations. Prince Bismarck's circular points out that, in view of the important change which has been made in the position of the Pope through the promulgation of the dogma of infallibility, it has become very desirable that the European Governments should come to some agreement respecting the course to be pursued at the next Papal election.

The Prussian correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs the substance of an account received by Messrs. Koch and Son, the proprietors of the brig *Gustav*, which was recently captured by the Carlists, from Mr. Rudolph Sprenger, German Acting Consul at San Sebastian. It appears that while the crew were trying to escape the fury of the sea and enter the harbour of Guetaria, they were forced out to sea again by the Carlists firing more than 2000 rounds at them. The ship soon after ran ashore, one portion of the crew being saved by Republican boats and another falling into the hands of the Carlists. Herr Zepeline, the captain, who is a prisoner in the Carlist camp, has found the means of writing home, but he dare give no details just now. It was hoped that the Carlists would so far respect the German flag as not to touch the cargo; but this expectation seems too sanguine, news having just been received that the vessel is fast being unloaded. The cargo consisted of petroleum, and was addressed to a firm at Passages, a short distance from Guetaria. The German Government are waiting for detailed official reports before determining upon their course. Contradiction is given from Berlin to the report that the gun-boats *Nutilus* and *Albatross* had had orders to remain in Spanish waters, and to demand satisfaction for the act of the Carlists in firing upon the *Gustav*. The vessels left Santander, in accordance with the directions sent to them.

RUSSIA.

On the 24th ult., the fête of the regiments of Finland and Volhynia, the Emperor gave a dinner to all the officers of the two regiments, in the Winter Palace, St. Petersburg. Among the company were the officers of the various regiments of the Guards, the aides-de-camp, generals, and major-generals of the Emperor's suite, and the aides-de-camp who had served in these regiments or are borne on their muster-rolls.

An Imperial ukase addressed to the Minister of the Imperial household has been published, stating that the Grand Duke Nicholas Constantinowitch is suffering from mental derangement, and placing him under the guardianship of his father. The ukase is based upon the report of the physicians who have been studying the case of his Imperial Highness for some time past. This Prince, a nephew of the Emperor, is the same who was recently stated to have clandestinely handed over his mother's diamonds to an actress. He has since been obliged to lead a secluded life at Tsarskoe Selö.

The Grand Duke Alexis, third son of the Emperor, is to make, next year, a second voyage to Australia in the frigate *Swetana*, of which, last summer, he was appointed captain, and in which he has already made several cruises in the Baltic. His Imperial Highness is said to be popular in the navy.

Six thousand Matachou Tartars have invaded the Amoor Province, wrested some fifteen years ago from China. Preparations are making to drive them back.

An embassy from Yakoob Beg of Kashgar has arrived at Tashkend, bringing presents for the Emperor and payment claimed by Russian merchants.

The commissioners of the Russian Imperial studs have issued a circular announcing the prizes and conditions of a fourth exhibition of Russian-bred horses, to be held in Moscow this year, from Sept. 11 to 16.

Sixteen thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine persons were banished to Siberia between May and October last. One thousand two hundred and twenty of these criminals of the worst description were sentenced to hard labour, and one thousand six hundred and twenty-four had been expelled from their communities as obnoxious, drunken, or burdensome. One thousand and eighty women and children over fifteen years of age, with one thousand two hundred and sixty-nine younger children, voluntarily accompanied the exiles.

SWEDEN.

Baron von Leijonhufvud, the Minister of Marine, has resigned, and Captain Frabrick von Olter has been appointed his successor.

The railway traffic in Sweden is stopped on account of a heavy fall of snow.

UNITED STATES.

The Senate, on Wednesday week, by a vote of 32 to 14, passed the Finance Bill, fixing the date of resumption of specie payments for Jan. 1, 1879, enacting free banking and the withdrawal of greenbacks to the amount of 80 per cent of the New National Bank currency issued until the greenbacks issue is reduced to 300,000,000 dols., and also replacing the fractional currency by silver as rapidly as practicable. The bill was framed by a Republican caucus and passed by strict party vote, the Democrats opposing.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy states that the United States navy is in a remarkably efficient condition, both as regards the number of vessels and their armament and sea-going qualities. One year ago the navy contained 165 vessels of all classes, with 1269 guns. There have been since added eight new steam-sloops, two torpedo-vessels, and one despatch-boat, while there have been sold two wooden and eleven light-draught iron vessels, leaving as the present force 163 vessels, with 1264 guns. The secretary regards the navy as in a better condition than it has been for years before, and he adds that "We are justified in feeling some pride in the prospect that the American navy will be able in the future, as in the past, to contribute its fair proportion to the strength, resources, and dignity of a powerful though peaceful nation."

A New York telegram says that the Government is making preparations at New Orleans against the attempts of the White League. In case of need, General Sheridan will be appointed to assume the command of the Federal troops there.

M. von Pestel, Councillor of Legation in Paris for Holland, has been appointed Minister Resident at Washington.

The Government is about sending out another Darien Inter-Oceanic Canal Exploring Expedition, to be commanded by Lieutenant F. Collins, United States Navy.

CANADA.

Mr. Macdonald has been re-elected for Kingston by a majority of seventeen.

The Ontario Legislature has been dissolved, the four years' term having expired. The general election is ordered for Jan. 18.

Upon the Earl of Carnarvon's recommendation, a settlement has been effected of the questions in dispute between the Dominion Government and British Columbia. The terms

of this agreement include the immediate commencement of railway communication between Esquimalt and Nanaimo, and of telegraphs and a wagon road across the mainland, to be followed, after some years, by the construction of a railroad. The annual expenditure for these purposes is to be at least 2,000,000 dols. The railway is to be completed from Lake Superior to the Pacific by the end of 1890.

CHINA.

A loan of £627,675 has been contracted by the Government. It is to bear interest at 8 per cent, and is to be issued at 95, through the Hong-Kong and Shanghai Bank.

We learn from Melbourne that the Victoria Parliament was prorogued on the 24th ult.

The Swiss Legislature has finally passed the bill on civil registration and civil marriage by sixty votes against nineteen.

A Brazilian telegram states that the Jesuits have been expelled from the province of Pernambuco.

From Jamaica we have additional accounts of the damage done by the recent hurricane. The crops have severely suffered.

At Malta, on Monday week, there was a tidal wave which rose and fell four feet in ten minutes, and several steamers parted from their moorings.

The number of workmen in Krupp's foundries at Essen, which has been already reduced from 16,000 to 12,000, is to be reduced by 4000 more.

The Queen has knighted Munguldass Nathoobhoy, of Bombay, C.S.I., late Member of the Council of the Governor of Bombay for making Laws and Regulations.

The Capetown mail brings information that the Committee of Public Safety at the diamond-fields has sent a petition to the Queen respecting the conduct of the local executive.

Advices from Lima to the 27th ult. give particulars of the operations undertaken to oppose the Peruvian insurrection, the suppression of which has been announced by telegraph.

An inquiry respecting the attempt to poison Colonel Hayre is said to have shown that the Guicowar of Baroda was directly implicated in the affair.

Notice is given in the *Gazette* that the grant to the naval forces employed on the Gold Coast during the Ashantee war, and amounting to a month's pay for each person engaged, is ready for distribution.

The third annual report of the director of the Japanese Mint states that in the three years since its opening, at the beginning of August, 1871, there have been 106,141,048 pieces of money coined (gold, silver, and copper).

With a view to settle the differences between Turkey and Roumania, the English Government have recommended the Porte to issue a firman granting the Principalities the right of concluding commercial treaties.

The Communal Council of Brussels has granted the concession of the Grand Opera of Brussels, vacant by the resignation of M. Campocasso, the present lessee, to Messrs. Stoumon and Calabresi for a term of nine years.

The *Eastern Budget* says that the Emperor of Austria is to proceed to Dalmatia next spring. He will be accompanied by Count Andrasz and the President of the Vienna Ministry, Prince Auersperg.

Maître Corot, the aged artist, has been presented by the French artists, a large number of whom had been his pupils, with a gold medal, as a testimonial of admiration and regard. The presentation took place in the Grand Hôtel, where some 300 artists assembled.

A telegram has been received from Queensland advising the arrival in the colony of the following ships of the London line:—The *Toowoomba* at Rockhampton, with 206 passengers; and the *Indus* at Brisbane, with 470.

A Roman telegram says that an important discovery has been made on the Esquiline Hill, consisting of seven statues, in fine preservation. There is a remarkable bust of Commodus, several heads, and many fragments. All these have been found in one room, not yet entirely excavated.

A communication from Monaco, says *Galignani*, states that Count de Stéhelin, nephew of the famous M. Krupp, lately won 400,000f. from the bank of the gaming-table. It is said he showed his prudence, for as soon as possible he took the railway train and returned home. To some it may appear that he would have better shown his prudence by not gambling at all.

The French police have arrested at Cambrai (Nord) two men named Baladiez, father and son, lithographic printers, on a charge of forging 20f. bank notes. When the agents entered the work-room they found eighty false notes already completed on a table, and, on a printing-press, the stones from which they had been produced. The prisoners, who have been sent to Lille, have made a full confession.

Disturbances have broken out on the Morocco frontier, in consequence of the appointment by the Emperor of the Sheik Hadji Mohammed to the command of the Kabyles of Beni Suasen. Some of the tribes of the district revolted, and in a conflict with them about 200 of their number were killed, and many wounded; but the sheik was compelled to retreat, and the rebels carried off many thousand sheep and camels. The Spahis and Turcos on the French side of the border were with difficulty prevented from taking part in the fight.

A deputation of the colliers of Charleroi, who had been partially and peaceably on strike for some days, had, on Christmas Eve an audience of the King of the Belgians. His Majesty received five of them. They desired that men who refuse to work at one pit shall be allowed to engage themselves at other collieries where hands are wanted, though the mining proprietors have coalesced not to engage men on strike—in other words, it would seem, a right to combine for themselves, but not for their employers. The King expressed his sympathy with them, but remarked that their demand did not come under the jurisdiction of the Government. His Majesty cited the example of England, where similar difficulties were settled by mutual agreement. The hint seems to have been taken; the men have met the masters, and the strike is over.

At the weekly meeting of the committee for the relief of the sufferers by famine in Asia Minor, recently held in Constantinople, some painful details were read of the condition of the people in the distressed districts. In one village, which contained, before the famine, about seventy families, only thirty are left. Of these, ten have no grain and no means of support. In another village forty-five persons have died of starvation, and half the population are utterly destitute. Few of the people had been able to sow anything this autumn, owing to want of seed and cattle. The relief funds are being distributed without regard to creed or nationality; and it is stated that the very proudest Greeks, Armenians, and Turks are so humbled by hunger that they are glad to receive relief from any hands.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

"We understand that the forthcoming number of the *Quarterly Review* will contain an article on the late Mr. Greville's 'Journal of the Reigns of George IV. and William IV,' authoritatively correcting some of the personal and misstatements of the diarist." What may be meant by an "authoritative" denial of the statements or misstatements of the late Clerk of the Council it is difficult to discern; since there can be very few persons alive who are able, or would care, to deny upon "authority" Mr. Greville's diverting and ill-natured gossip about King George and King William. "Nee, si sciam, dicere ausim" might be the prudent maxim of a personage who really "knew all about it." Still, if the gentleman who is about to "dish" Mr. Henry Reeve in the imminent instalment of the *Quarterly* had had a judicious adviser at his elbow when he sat down to indite his article, such a sage counsellor might have done worse than quote Lord Melbourne, and whisper—"Can't you let it alone?" The publication of the "Greville Memoirs," all entertaining as they were, constituted a public scandal. The editor promises a further instalment of the "Memoirs," coming much nearer to our own time, at no distant date. That will be scandal number two. Then will come the probable "denial" in the *Quarterly* and a possible refutation of the second batch of "Grevilliana"; and, altogether, Sir Benjamin Backbite, Lady Sneerwell, and Mrs. Candour will be in ecstacies at the Niagara of tittle-tattle which may descend upon us.

That the production of this amusing book of gossip so soon after the events to which the gossip related had occurred, was premature and eminently ill-advised, no person of good taste and sound judgment can doubt; and there was something extremely indecent in the circumstance of the Registrar to her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council solemnly "redacting" the leasing-making of a deceased functionary who had eaten the bread of two Kings, and who died a pensioner of the Crown. Surely when Sovereigns and their advisers sit down at the council board they do not expect that the Clerk will be "the chiel amang them takin' notes," and that "faith he'll prent it." The great case in point, and one which should be always remembered as a precedent and an exemplar as to judicious good taste in the promulgation of "memoirs," is that of Clarendon's "History of the Rebellion." The illustrious Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, died at Rome in 1674; and it was not until four Sovereigns of England had passed away that English readers were privileged to know "all about" the public and private transactions of the reign of Charles I. The philosophy of the matter is that nobody minds learning the very worst about their grandfathers, or their grandmothers, but that most people object to being reminded in print of the possible failings of their papas and mammas.

Talking of "Memoirs," it is instructive to notice the appearance of an obituary notice in the *Times* of Wednesday, which may be regarded as a positively original *coup* in the art of biography. I was nearly saying "biography writing," until I was reminded of the dictum of the stern purist in language, who said, "Sir, a man cannot write his biography, save pleonastically. 'He must write his *bios*—his life—or his *biology*.' The novelty in the *Times* is a sketch of the life of the late beloved and revered Rector of Rugby, the Rev. John Moultrie, who died on Dec. 26, at Rugby, in his seventy-fifth year. In the *Etonian* for 1821 Mr. Winthrop Markworth Praed, writing under the *nom de plume* of "Peregrine Courtenay," remarked of the venerable clergyman now deceased, "And now what should I say of Moultrie, the humorous Moultrie, the pathetic Moultrie, the Moultrie of 'Godiva,' and the Moultrie of 'My Brother's Grave'?" The *Times* memoir occupies more than a column and a half of large type, of which nearly three fourths are made up of extracts from Mr. Moultrie's own poems; and the whole is signed by "A Rugebian," presumably an attached friend of the dead. Surely such a model is better worth following in necrology than the system of "pigeon-holing" the lives of eminent personages many years before they die, or, should they happen to depart without being pigeon-holed, of hastily hashing up an obituary notice of them out of "Men of the Time."

Very good and yeoman-like service to letters has been done by Mr. Algernon Charles Swinburne, in penning an introduction of sixty-eight closely-printed octavo pages to the edition of the "Works of George Chapman," including the poems and the minor translations, just put forward in a very neat and attractive form by Messrs. Chatto and Windus. Few of the secondary luminaries of the Great Epoch of English literature are better worth reading than honest, rugged, eloquent George Chapman. Yet who, save a few very laborious students, read him now—or, for the matter of that, Sandys, or Sidney, or Raleigh? The book itself I must leave to the reviewers; yet may I quote as an Echo the sparklingly malicious opening to the "Invective written by Mr. George Chapman against Mr. Ben Jonson":—

Great, learned, witty Ben, be pleased to light
The world with that three-fork'd fire, nor right
All us, thy sub-learn'd, with luciferous boast.
That thou art most great, most learn'd, most witty, most
Of all the kingdom, nay, of all the earth,
As being a thing betwixt a human birth
And an infernal —

all this Mr. Chapman grants; but he does not fail to hint that Ben aired his erudition somewhat too arrogantly. The "invective" might be profitably taken to heart by a good many learned pundits of the existing age.

So M. Victorien Sardou's desperately sanguinary tragedy of "La Haine," so much discussed and so much be-puffed, is, from a theatrically remunerative point of view, a failure. A factitious importance was given to this panorama of melodramatic butcheries by fulsome notice of the rehearsals, and by the almost prohibitory charges made for places on the first night of performance. A bubble is a bubble, however portentously it may be puffed from the pipe of publicity, and however iridescent its hues may be; but its lot is, sooner or later, to collapse, and to leave nothing beyond a taste of soapsuds in the mouth of the blower. After having been played for five and twenty nights to more or less empty benches, "La Haine" has been discovered to be a *bulle de savon*; M. Sardou has magnanimously relieved M. Offenbach, the manager of the Gaîté Théâtre, from the obligation of representing "La Haine" any longer; and M. Offenbach, thankfully accepting the offer of the dramatic author, has fallen back, very gaily, on his ancient ally, "Orphée aux Enfers." Another dramatic Echo comes from Paris to the effect that the opening or "inauguratory" performance at the new Grand Opera is to be considered a gala night, and that every one of the seats in the house has been exclusively reserved for the use of the Government. The measure may seem harsh; but it is in reality a very wise one. With about 3000 places at his disposal, M. Halanzier, the manager of the Opera, had received 12,500 applications for free admissions; so that, without receiving a centime in cash, he was bound, under any

circumstances, mortally to offend 9500 people. Those who ask for orders and are refused, never forgive.

The charming sermon preached by Dean Stanley to a congregation of little boys and girls in Westminster Abbey, on Innocents' Day, suggests to the reflective mind three very comfortable things—first, that we are growing much less superstitious than was formerly the case, since Innocents' Day used to be accounted the unluckiest anniversary in the whole year, and one on which parents scarcely ventured to let their children stir from home lest something unfortunate should happen to them; next, that Dean Stanley must be the most liberal of clerics, since he did not hesitate to introduce into his discourse a complimentary allusion to a three-volume novel by one George Eliot, entitled "Silas Marner"; finally, that children in the year 1874 have what the Americans term "a good time of it." In the days of old birch-broome were in tremendous request on Innocents' Eve; and early in the morning of the day itself it was the practice to administer a sound whipping to all the children, great and small, in a household, in order that the cruelty of King Herod might never be effaced from their minds. A curious reflex of this absurd custom lingered until lately in the south of France. The villagers on the roads in Provence, leading to the great *bagne* of Toulon, were accustomed to thrash their children whenever a chain-gang of convicts passed by. It was thought that the punishment, combined with the sight of the shackled felons, would serve as a salutary warning and example to the rising generation. But convicts are now conveyed to their destination in cellular vans. The public are spared a repulsive spectacle, and the Provençal juveniles escape an unmerited castigation.

"This," said the showman to a travelling museum of antiquities, "is the knife with which Charlotte Corday stabbed the monster Marat." "Is it, indeed," remarked an American visitor, "but where's the fork?" Travelling showmen have been bereft of a rare treasure in the acquisition by Prince Bismarck of the two pistols with which attempts were made on his life by the crazy Blind and the imbecile Kullmann respectively. Blind's revolver is a present from Herr Delbrück, who purchased it at an auction of the prisoner's effects; and the pistol used by Kullmann was parted with by the Bavarian Government to Prince Bismarck, "for a consideration" of one thaler twenty-five silbergroschen—about four shillings sterling. Both "bull-dogs" are now peacefully lying on the study table of the German Chancellor, at Berlin. But "where is the fork?" Where, I mean, are the bullets? Does Prince Bismarck keep the significant leaden pellets as charms?

I hear that 135,000 copies have been sold of Mr. Gladstone's pamphlet on the Vatican Decrees—which has incited our old friend Mrs. Malaprop (mis-spelling the words, as usual) to remark that she is glad to hear that the inference of the Vatican is decreasing instead of augmenting; and that 40,000 copies have been "placed" of Miss Braddon's "Taken at the Flood." This is "leading on to fortune" with a vengeance; and who would not be a novelist or a pamphleteer in these days?

G. A. S.

THE BUBBLE.

I hold a bubble in my hand,
And watch while o'er it flit
Strange shadows, that in order pass,
Like forms which haunt a wizard's glass
When black arts people it:
As one within a dream I stand,
Whose meaning mocks my wit.

Some spectres seem to wish me well,
While others frown and flee;
Here, rosy Hope is shrined in light,
There, famished Care, the thrall of Night,
Toils lone and drearily;
And Memory, as they pass, would tell
What each one was to me.

As when a day its gloom forsakes
Just when the night is near,
So, by a gleam of thought, I know
The story that these shadows show,
And whose days disappear:
The clock strikes twelve—my bubble breaks!
My bubble!—twas a year. R. B. HOLT.

SIR B. BURKE'S PEERAGE AND BARONETAGE,
137TH EDITION, 1875.

It may be safely asserted that 1874 has been more prolific of new titles than any previous year. Since Jan. 1 last the Baronies of Laverton, Moncrieff, Coleridge, Emly, Carlingford, Cottesloe, Hammond, Hampton, and Wimmarleigh, the Viscount of Cardwell, the Earldoms of Sydney and Raveasworth, and the Dukedom of Westminster appear for the first time on "Garter's Roll." In pedigree and intellect the holders of these new dignities will sustain the honour of the Peerage. Howard, Fortescue, Grosvenor, Townshend, and Liddell are sounds familiar and pleasing to the ear of the genealogist; and the politician is no less gratified in recognising in the Upper House those whose names have long been household words in the Commons—Cardwell, Coleridge, Pakington, Chichester-Fortescue, Moncrieff, Monsell, and Wilson-Patten. The Baronetage has also been much enlarged, fifteen creations having been made. Death, too, has been busy during the past twelve months. The Duke of Leinster, the Marquises of Clanricarde and Downshire, the Earls of Dalhousie, Howth, Charleville, and Castle Stewart, the Lords Howden, Fermoy, Thurlow, St. John, Blayney, and several others, including the senior Baron of England, De Ros, and the senior Baron of Ireland, Kingsale, have all passed away.

The general public, who indulge themselves only now and then with a new edition of Burke's Peerage, should most assuredly, in view of all these circumstances, select this year as the most appropriate time for the luxury. We find that the new edition before us is most comprehensive as to all the new creations, and much improved in various respects. The Royal family has a division to itself, and the Royal Dukes are no longer classed among the other peers. In point of fact, Royal Dukedoms have a precedence above all titles of like degree. This principle is admitted in every kingdom of Europe. It would be curious to inquire and ascertain what will be the status, style, and name of the younger children of the Duke of Edinburgh's great grandson, the inheritor of his title, and also to discover what is and will be the surname of her Majesty's descendants.

In conclusion, we have only to add our commendation of the accuracy with which this great work is conducted, and to recommend it more than ever this year.

Mr. Grant-Duff and Lord Ormonde arrived at Bombay on Nov. 28.

The Extra Supplement.

A WINTER WALK.

This picture, by a French artist, M. J. Nettis, is copied for our large Engraving from a photograph published by Messrs. Goupil and Co., of Paris and London. Its title in French is "Fait-il froid?" or, as we should say, "Isn't it cold?" Indeed, the young ladies may well make such a remark in any language best at their command. How bleak is the field over which they pass! and what a cutting blast now meets them from the right-hand side of the view, which direction, as in a map, we think is due east! It is quite as cold in the open plains and uplands of sunny France at this season as in any part of England, for we have the shelter of hedgerows and more abundant coppice-woods, and the warmth of more frequent villages, hamlets, and farmsteads to lessen the severity of our winter clime in the rural districts. In our cities and towns we have the comfort of plenteous coal-fires, emitting a cloud of smoke, which wraps up the whole community as beneath a coverlet of flannel. It is not beautiful, but it keeps us snug. Above all, we enjoy the tempering effect of a surrounding sea upon the sharp winds that come from Siberian steppes and over the frozen Baltic, with the breath of the Ico King, to blow on Western Europe. Let us be grateful, Englishmen and Englishwomen, for these mitigating circumstances of our winter, though we have more than a due allowance of fog and rain.

BURNING OF THE EMIGRANT-SHIP
COSPATRICK AT SEA.

The most terrible catastrophe of the old year was the destruction by fire of the emigrant-ship *Cospatrick*, and the consequent loss of over 450 lives, in the early morning of Nov. 18.

The *Cospatrick* was a teak-built sailing-ship, of 1200 tons, constructed at Moulmein, in India, and classed A 1 at Lloyd's until 1883. She was 190 ft. in length, 34 ft. in breadth, and had 23 ft. depth of hold. Purchased by her present owners, Messrs. Shaw, Savill, and Co., of 34, Leadenhall-street, from the late Mr. Duncan Dunbar, she was now making only her second voyage under the flag of that house. Formerly employed in carrying troops to and from India, and occasionally engaged in the conveyance of coolies, she had also on a previous occasion made a voyage from England to New Zealand with a large party of emigrants. She had been for many years under the command of Captain Elmslie, her late chief officer, who retained his position when the vessel was transferred to her new owners, and who was in chief command on the present voyage. The *Cospatrick* left Gravesend on Sept. 11 last, carrying 429 emigrants, sent out through the General Agency of New Zealand, and bound for Auckland. There were 177 male adults, 125 women, 58 boys, 53 girls, and 16 infants under twelve months. Her crew was composed of 43 persons—officers, men, and boys, all told. There were also on board four independent passengers, making in all a total of 476 souls.

The fire broke out in latitude 37 deg. south, and longitude 12 deg. east—one account has it west. A telegram from Madeira in the *Daily News* says that at midnight on Nov. 17, when the second officer left the deck, everything was apparently all right, but at half-past twelve he was awoken by the alarm of fire. The captain was on deck immediately, and all hands attempted to get the vessel before the wind, but without success. The flames came up the fore hatch within a quarter of an hour, and in less than half an hour the fire was nearly all along the deck. A special cablegram in the *Daily Telegraph* goes on to say that the flames and smoke were driven aft, setting fire to the boats which were placed in the fore part of the vessel, and thus effectually prevented their use. The excitement on board now became terrible, and the passengers rushed to the quarter boats, which were on the davits hanging over the side, and crowded into them. It is estimated that about eighty people, most of them women, thus got into the starboard boat, and remained there till the davits bent down over the side and the boat's stern dipped into the sea. Then it capsized, and all its occupants were immediately drowned alongside the vessel. Just afterwards the fore, main, and mizen masts all fell over the side in quick succession, killing many of the emigrants and adding to the terror of the rest. But the worst had not yet come; for suddenly the stern of the vessel blew out with a loud report under the poop deck, and completed the destruction of the ship. Two boats under the command of Mr. Romaine and Mr. Macdonald had meanwhile been filled, and reached some little distance from the *Cospatrick*; but Captain Elmslie, his wife, and Dr. Cadle remained on board the vessel until she went down. When the last moment had come the captain threw his wife overboard, and then leapt into the sea after her. At the same time the doctor jumped overboard with the captain's little boy in his arms, and all were drowned together.

The two boats kept together for a couple of days. They were then separated by bad weather. The missing boat contained the chief officer, the ship's butcher, five seamen, and twenty-five passengers. She has not since been heard of, but it is hoped that she may have reached the island of Tristan d'Acunha. In Macdonald's boat thirst soon began to be severely felt. One man fell overboard while steering. Three others died after becoming mad. On Nov. 23 four more died. The survivors were then suffering so intensely from hunger and thirst that they drank the blood and ate the livers of two of the dead. Other deaths followed; and when, on the 27th, two more of the men died, one was thrown overboard, but nobody had strength enough to lift the other. Ultimately five men were all who were left alive in the boat, and of these two had gone mad. They died soon after being rescued by the ship *British Sceptre*. Macdonald, Thomas Lewis, and James Cotter, the three survivors, were most kindly treated on board the *British Sceptre*, which landed them, on Dec. 6, at St. Helena. Thence they left in the *Nyanza* for Southampton, touching, *en voyage*, at Madeira, whence the foregoing particulars of the lamentable calamity have been telegraphed to England.

We learn from the Mansion House that the Lord Mayor will receive subscriptions in aid of the dependent relatives and families of those who have perished.

Lord Hammond was, on Wednesday, admitted an honorary brother of the Corporation of Trinity House, Hull.

The veteran artist, humourist, and moralist who has delighted and instructed three generations of English folk—this man is, of course, no other than George Cruikshank—has made another public appearance. It is with a new edition of his terribly truthful "Bottle," which may be compared with the works of Hogarth, and might be called "The Drunkard's Progress." The eight plates, of reduced size (from the original etchings) are printed by the Dalziel's, and are published for sixpence by Messrs. Curtice, in Catherine-street, and F. Arnold, Fleet-street. A quarter of a century has not lessened the value of these vigorous designs.



THE NEW GRAND OPERA-HOUSE AT PARIS.

THE NEW GRAND OPERA HOUSE AT PARIS.
 The view we here give of the Grand Opera House in the Boulevard des Italiens shows that structure is to appear but in its surroundings. The square of the Place de l'Opéra, which separates the Opera from the Boulevard, conceals the Opera's lateral wings. Again, the Boulevard des Italiens, having been raised above the level of the surrounding streets, the ground floor of the Opera is to be seen in the Boulevard. The two outer columns of the Opera are to be seen in the Boulevard, and the two inner columns in a hollow. M. Garnier, the architect, must be excused for faults not his own. We borrow these remarks from the *Builder*, and likewise the following:—“Works of notice in the New Opera House are the granite columns of the portico and the balcony, the stage having a large gable roof, the house a low cupola, suggestive of the house's inner form. At a lower level are seen the roofings of the minor parts of the building and the small domes

quaintly spanning over the side pavilions. Thus the outer building be-speaks its inner arrangement. This many-levelled roofing is certainly a new device; for the old playhouses are, as a rule, capped with one comprehensive roof, the porticoes being supported by simple-walled columns, steps on which rests large coupled Corinthian columns, whose intercoloniations are occupied by smaller Corinthian columns: these smaller columns bear bulls'-eyes from which the names of the plays are to be seen. The porticoes of the Opera are to be seen in the Boulevard. The two outer columns of the Opera are to be seen in the Boulevard, and the two inner columns in a hollow. M. Garnier, the architect, must be excused for faults not his own. We borrow these remarks from the *Builder*, and likewise the following:—“Works of notice in the New Opera House are the granite columns of the portico and the balcony, the stage having a large gable roof, the house a low cupola, suggestive of the house's inner form. At a lower level are seen the roofings of the minor parts of the building and the small domes

their purpose is exclusively ornamental. This failure, however, is attributable to an alteration in M. Garnier's original design, presented by public, or rather democratic, taste. M. Garnier had planned the porticoes of the first floor. How, however, the immense height of the foyer's ceiling, the heavy attic over it, and the consequent patchwork just mentioned. It has been observed that the front elevation presents a system of granite columns, and that the inner columns are of a lighter material. The porticoes, which form a centre to this elevation, contain the private rooms of the ex-Emperor; whereas the large coupled or twin columns, on which rests the whole structure, are of hard white limestone. The ornamental parts of the stone colonnade are, however, of a lighter stone, spoilt by the heavy attic over the front, which so dwarfs the larger columns, that the smaller columns seem to have been called in as extra hands to help in carrying the building. In fact, the smaller columns fail to suggest the idea that

to the first story under a large quadrangular dome, supported on each side by three arches resting on four granite columns. Behind these arches are seen the bases of the members of the colonnade supporting the porticoes of the first floor. How, however, the immense height of the foyer's ceiling, the heavy attic over it, and the consequent patchwork just mentioned. It has been observed that the front elevation presents a system of granite columns, and that the inner columns are of a lighter material. The porticoes, which form a centre to this elevation, contain the private rooms of the ex-Emperor; whereas the large coupled or twin columns, on which rests the whole structure, are of hard white limestone. The ornamental parts of the stone colonnade are, however, of a lighter stone, spoilt by the heavy attic over the front, which so dwarfs the larger columns, that the smaller columns seem to have been called in as extra hands to help in carrying the building. In fact, the smaller columns fail to suggest the idea that

the Asiatic mind had reposed for centuries on its literary traditions of a superannuated past. Here is a location where signs of

English, French, and American civilization, drawing a train of prancing carriages over an iron girder-bridge across the sacred river of the Hindus.

The very name of the Ganges is full of interest, if we think of what it is to that ancient race of people, and of their probable descent from the same original stock whence issued the leading nations of Europe. It is, indeed, uncertain at what early date the Aryans reached, from the banks of the Ganges, the Indus, and from a stream of migration which passed into Upper India. Of the native languages now spoken in Northern and Central India there are five—namely, the Punjabi, the Hindi or Canooj, the Mithila of Behar, the Bengali, and the Gurjari, which is the language of ancient Sancrit. The Oriya, or language of Orissa, and the Maharsahita or Mahatita of Western India, belong also to this family. The Tamil and Telugu, in Southern India, have a different origin. Now the Sanscrit of the Vedas, the Hindoo sacred classics, has many words or roots of words in common with the Persian, the Greek, the Latin, the Gothic or Germanic, and the Celtic. These are reckoned to be the languages of different nations of the Aryans, and they are all languages which could admit of a very dominant native race of Hindostan to our ethnological kindred. There may have been, in pre-historic times, an immigration from the neighbouring countries of Afghanistan, Persia, and Central India, and from parts of India.

But it is allowable to believe that the people, by or for whom the

ON A RAILWAY BRIDGE OVER THE GANGES
 The important engineering work of which we give an illustration with others of a similar character in British India, exemplifies the introduction of modern scientific and utilitarian inventions, where

Hindoo Vedas were composed fourteen centuries before the Christian era, descended from those dwelling on the upper course of the Oxus, north of Kabool, somewhere about Badaksham and Balkh, the country which was known to the Greeks as Bactria. This is the nearest land that seems capable of having reared a superfluity of population, and it has been regarded as the primeval seat of the purest Aryan race.

They were the authors or custodians, in ancient Persia, of those venerable Aryan traditions of religious philosophy, which were preserved in the writings of Zoroaster. It is possible that another theological and ethical system, of a date equally remote (we mean that of the Vedas), may be a product of the same national genius for speculative thought. A race to whom the Greeks, the modern Germans, and the Hindoos are supposed to be akin, and whose language proves their capacity for profound and exact discrimination of ideas, must have been early addicted to metaphysical disputations. Its rival schools and sects may have quarrelled above 3000 years ago; and the supposed Aryan emigration to India may have been caused by a religious schism and persecution. There is room at least to imagine some such transaction; and that those who held the faith of the Vedas not then so expressly formulated, may have taken themselves southward, through the Cabool mountain passes, into the Punjab, and thence to the banks of the Ganges. The precise locality where they are first discovered to our view is a hundred miles north-west of Delhi, towards Puttiala and Umballa. Here is a small tract of land, between the Saraswati and the Drishwati or Caggar rivers, which Hindoo sacred history declares to have been the earthly residence of the gods. It is called Brahmapurta, meaning the abode of Brahma. The entire country between this district and the Jumna, to the north of the Jumna and Ganges, is called Brahmarshi, being the classic land of the Hindoos; and every Brahmin who is born there has a peculiar sanctity.

This is testified by the Institutes of Menu, composed probably in the ninth century B.C. The legendary history of the Hindoo nation, beginning with the Mahabharata, about five centuries earlier, relates the war of the Pandu family, aided by the divine Krishna, the Indian Bacchus, who then dwelt in Guzerat, to win the sovereignty of Hastinapooa, a territory in the upper course of the Ganges. Other provinces of India mentioned as existing at that time are Mattrra, Panchala, in the Lower Dooab, belonging to Oude, Benares, Magadha, and Bengal.

In the epic tale of "The Ramayana," which has rather an unhistoric character, we are told how the divine Rama was a King of Oude, who, when his wife Sita was carried off by the giant Ravana, marched through the Deccan, and all the way to Lanka or Ceylon, with a series of conflicts and victories to avenge the insult. We may, indeed, fairly presume that both these romances of mythology and national history are typical of some actual events or epochs in the conquest of Hindostan by the progenitors of the Hindoo people. The time of their settlement on the Ganges cannot have been much later than 1400 B.C., about the time when the Assyrians were settling on the Tigris.

The Vedas, or those portions which are of undoubted authenticity, may then have been collected from previous fragmentary traditions. They consist of hymns and prayers, religious doctrines and precepts, and calendars of ritual observance. They inculcate the belief in one God, the Spirit of the Universe, the Maker and Ruler of All, but with a triad of attributive functions, as Brahma the creator, Vishnu the preserver, and Siva the destroyer. This is the metaphysical and essential part of the ancient creed. Its secondary features, presented in the Institutes of Menu, amount to the personification of material objects and physical forces, as Indra, the air; Agni, fire; Varuna, water; Surya, the Sun; and Chandra, the moon; or of certain abstract qualities in nature. The chastisement of the guilty soul after death, and its transmigration through various bodies of animals and plants, till it should be restored to the forfeited privilege of rational humanity in another life amongst men, are taught by this religion. There is a host of mythological inventions, including those relating to the ten successive incarnations of Vishnu, among which are his fabled appearances in the persons of Rama and Krishna, the heroes of two national epic poems. But these corruptions of the old Hindoo faith, chiefly contained in the Puranas, are of more recent growth. The laws that regulate the social organisation of ancient India, with the institution of four separate castes—namely, Brahmins, the hereditary sacerdotal class; Cshatriyas, the military; Veisyas, the commercial and industrial; and Sudras, the servile, were codified probably in the ninth century before Christ.

All this complex fabric of strictly defined rights and duties has a certain resemblance of style and spirit to the legal and ecclesiastical contrivances of mediæval Europe, rather than to the ordinary customs or ideas of most Asiatic nations. The affinity of the Hindoos, therefore, to the principal branches of mankind in our western part of the Old World continent, seems to be borne out by these tokens of a moral and intellectual family likeness.

It may, perhaps, be objected that these archaeological, ethnological, and mythological reminiscences are out of place on a railway bridge. That only proves what an odd thing it is that railway bridges should be built over the Ganges. This is just what was remarked at the outset of our discourse, and the reader may continue to meditate upon the same topic according to the bent of his own mind. Let him think it all over, if ever he travels in India, while he sits in the train passing over this bridge. But we may add here a few particulars concerning the bridge itself. It is on the Allyghur branch of the Oude and Rohileund railway; and it was opened for traffic on June 5 last year, having been four years and a half under construction. The engineer-in-chief for the railway is Mr. T. Lovell, C.E.; but it is Mr. W. Butler, C.E., the resident engineer, who deserves credit for the execution of this work, assisted by Mr. Connolly, the clerk of works. We learn that the structure "consists of thirty-three openings, of 92 ft. 6 in. from centre to centre of piers, which are carried on single cylindrical wells 16 ft. in diameter, sunk 65 ft. below low water;" through sand, clay, silt, "kunkur" and a lower bed of sand. There is no prophecy in the Vedas of this kind of thing; and neither the Ramayana nor the Mahabharata contains the slightest allusion to the deeds of railway engineers.

A literary publication of some historical interest, by Mr. Elliott Stock, Paternoster-row, is the facsimile reprint of Bunyan's original edition of "The Pilgrim's Progress." There is a peculiar charm in the reading of that marvellous allegorical tale precisely as it met the eyes of the good men and women who first enjoyed it in the reign of King Charles II., when the author had not long been released from Bedford gaol. The local celebration, in the past year, of Bunyan's life at Bedford, upon which we made some comments at the time, was a fitting opportunity for the undertaking to publish this desirable copy of his famous work. Those who buy it will possess an excellent English classic, and a suitable memorial of the truehearted Christian Englishman, John Bunyan.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Anstey, A. C. C.; to be Vicar of St. Paul's, Whiteshill, Stroud.
Atwood, J. F.; Vicar of Norton.
Bellairs, C.; Vicar of Sutton Ashfield, Notts; Rector of Bolton Abbey.
Berwell, H. F.; Vicar of Hogsthorpe, Lincoln.
Boode, John A.; Inspector of Schools for the Diocese of Canterbury.
Broadhurst, F.; Vicar of Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts.
Burbridge, John; Incumbent of Emmanuel Church, West Derby-road.
Burges, John Hart; Rector of St. John's-with-St. Mary's, Devizes.
Burnside, J. C.; Curate of Rivenhall; Vicar of St. John's, Finchfield.
Cardwell, J. H.; Perpetual Curate of St. Andrew's, Fulham-fields.
Carson, James; Curate-in-Charge of Neen Savage, Bewdley.
Davies, John Hamilton; Rector of St. Nicholas, Worcester.
Clarke, Charles John; Vicar of St. Andrew's, Montpelier, Clifton.
Drake, T. R.; Vicar of Sutton-upon-Trent, Notts.
Dupuis, Charles Seymour; Rector of Binton, Warwickshire.
Eaton, T. K.; Vicar of Oakridge, Gloucestershire.
Edwards, H.; Rector of Bannington, Norfolk.
Farman, Samuel, jun.; Vicar of St. Nicholas, Harwich.
Forde, A. F.; Vicar of Wellesbourne, Warwickshire.
Forester, Orlando Watkin Weld; Canon-Residentiary in York Cathedral.
Fox, Robert Stote; Rector of Newton, Suffolk.
Gandell, Robert; Prebendary of Ashill.
Hallett, Gerard Ludlow; Rector of Dunkerton, Bath.
Ingle, Samuel; Senior Curate of Mildenhall, Suffolk.
Lawson, George Nicholas Gray; Vicar of Upgleaon, near Gloucester.
Luffman, Thomas; Vicar of St. Peter-at-Gowts, Lincoln.
Marsh, J.; Vicar of Hilton, Dorsetshire.
Marshall, J. W.; Vicar of St. John's, Blackheath.
Neilan, Frederick; Curate of St. Bride's, Liverpool.
Peele, F. W.; Rector of Burghwallis; Vicar of Skelbrook.
Pownall, Asheton; Honorary Canon in Peterborough Cathedral.
Robinson, Arthur James; Vicar of St. John's, Waterloo-road, Lambeth.
Smith, Robert J. French; Assistant Chaplain at Singapore.
Stayner, T. L.; Curate-in-Charge of Overbury; Rector of Bowberrow.
Thorpe, Gervase; Vicar of St. Mary's, Bungay.
Titcomb, Jonathan Holt; Honorary Canon in Winchester Cathedral.
Toole, Seymour H.; Vicar of Greyfriars, Reading.
Watkins, F.; Archdeacon of York and Prebendary of Knaresborough.
White, Arthur; Rural Dean of Weldon (second portion).
Williams, George; Honorary Canon in Winchester Cathedral.

A large black marble tombstone has been laid over the grave of the late Dr. Livingstone, in Westminster Abbey. The stone bears a long inscription in gold letters.

On Christmas Day Bramham church, near Leeds, was seriously damaged by a fire, caused by the heating apparatus. The tower was destroyed, and the bells fell among the ruins.

The Rev. J. H. Grantham Robinson, Vicar of St. James's, Walthamstow, on the consecration of the new Church of St. Saviour, has been presented with a handsome drawing-room clock and a purse with £150.

The small but interesting parish church of Brockhall, near Weedon, has been restored by the Rev. T. C. Thornton, the patron of the living and the lord of the manor. The total cost of the works has not been less than £1000.

Innocents' Day was celebrated at Westminster Abbey, on Monday afternoon, by a special service for children, at which a large number of young people were present, and Dean Stanley preached a sermon suited to his congregation.

Earl Cowper has offered to rebuild, at his own expense, the tower of St. Andrew's, Hertfordshire; and Mr. Robert Smith, of Goldness (a member of the firm of Payne, Smith, and Co.), has remitted a debt of £500 remaining on the church.

The Duchess of Teck laid the corner-stone of the north aisle and organ chamber of St. John's Church, Kingston Vale, on Monday. The addition is intended to complete the building as originally designed by Messrs. Ewan and Christian, architects, Whitehall-place.

At a meeting held at Chelsea, on Tuesday night, under the presidency of Captain the Hon. F. Maude, resolutions commemorative of the "eastward position" and other ritualistic practices were passed, and a letter from Mr. Newdegate, M.P., in the same sense, was read.

The parish church of Earl's Barton, which is of singular architectural interest, is undergoing a thorough restoration, under the care of Mr. R. G. Carpenter. With the exception of £1500, which has been raised by subscription, the whole of the cost has been defrayed by Mr. Thornton, the patron.

The Archbishop of Canterbury recently opened the restored church of Sidcup, Kent, and preached on the occasion. There was a large gathering of the clergy and laity of the neighbourhood to meet the Archbishop at the house of Mr. Berens, one of the Governors of the Bank of England. The Primate and Mrs. Tait were the guests of Earl Sydney, the Lord Lieutenant of the county.

The Bishop of Manchester, preaching at Bradford on Monday, urged the importance of Churchmen taking a broader view of their duties. He wanted to see the Church as broad as the nation, which it ought to represent. The Church was reproved in having within its borders three parties—High, Low, and Broad. In his opinion it was the richer and stronger for having these. He did not know to which he himself belonged. He held sympathies with all of them, and he believed the Church would be poorer if it were without them.

Mr. Disraeli, in reply to a memorial from members of the Evangelical party, forwarded to him by the Earl of Shaftesbury, on various matters connected with the condition of the Church, expresses a hope that the Public Worship Act will remedy the insubordination and lawlessness of some of the clergy, agrees with the memorialists that it is desirable to cultivate intimate relations between the clergy and the laity, and believes that under existing legislation further expansion of the ecclesiastical machinery may be accomplished.

The Dean of Worcester has been presented with a cabinet, inclosing a tazza of silver gilt, which bears the following inscription:—"Presented, together with a purse of 300 gs., to the Honourable and Very Rev. G. M. Yorke, D.D., Dean of Worcester, on his leaving the rectory of St. Philip's, by the congregation, and inhabitants of Birmingham and other friends, in grateful testimony of his long and faithful services as Rector of St. Philip's and Rural Dean. Dec. 11, 1874." This handsome memorial was presented to Dr. Yorke, at St. Philip's Vestry, in the presence of a large number of the clergy and laity of Birmingham, by Mr. Mayhew, the senior churchwarden; after which Canon Wilkinson, who presided, handed to the very rev. gentleman a Bible and an address of farewell, signed by about forty of the clergy of the rural deanery.

The church of Great Hallingbury, Essex, has been restored, and indeed almost rebuilt, by the munificence of Mr. John Archer Houlton, who has expended on it more than £6000. A further sum of £600 has been laid out upon the chancel by the Rector, the Rev. H. M. Oswald and his friends. The *Guardian* says it is now a very favourable specimen of a small parish church in the Early English style, 73 ft. long by 19 ft. wide. The reredos is of English alabaster, and the cross upon it is studded with cornelians and bloodstones. It is surmounted with a pelican in her piety; and at its foot is an Agnus Dei. Throughout the church the carving is marked with great taste and beauty. There is an excellent organ of eighteen stops, built by Messrs. Foster and Andrews, of Hull, from specifications drawn up by Professor Oakley, a brother of whom presided at the instrument on Wednesday, when the church was reopened by the Bishop of Rochester.

The Bishop of Winchester consecrated the Church of All Saints, Alton, on Wednesday week. At the conclusion of the ceremony a public luncheon was provided at the Townhall, and Lord Selborne, in responding to the toast of "The House of Commons, our rulers, and the House of Lords, our safeguards," said that as long as he had breath to speak he should not hesitate to deprecate as a Churchman and a citizen any attempts to sever the Church from the State, or to deprive either of the benefits they derived from that connection. If such a severance must come, he hoped Churchmen and the clergy would not be accomplices in bringing the country to such a crisis. They might depend upon it that those who were discontented with the present state of the Church, and were anxious, as it were, to pull down the house about their heads, would not find themselves in a better position than they were now if they did so, but very much the worse. With respect to the State, he trembled as a citizen to think of the consequences which might result from the breaking up of a system which entered so deeply into the whole of our national life, and was so entwined with all our existing institutions.

The distribution of prizes at King's College School, Strand, took place on Wednesday week. The scholarships and exhibitions were awarded as follow:—The "Forest" endowment, George Tweedy (scholar); "Inglis" endowment, T. F. Hobson (scholar); mathematics, G. F. Fenner and Gordon Smith (scholars), T. F. Hobson and T. H. Russell (Freak exhibitioners); French, T. F. Hobson (exhibitioner); German, Henry Moberly (exhibitioner). During the year four students have taken honours at Oxford, nine at Cambridge, fifteen at the London University; eleven have gained scholarships and prizes in the medical department of King's College, whilst three have been awarded certificates of honour and one elected an associate; two have taken prizes given by the same college for general literature and science, four have been awarded prizes in the department of applied sciences, and three have received certificates of approval in the same department. Twenty-three boys have gained "other distinctions."

The annual silver medal offered by the Rev. Alex. J. D. D'Orsey, B.D., Cambridge, and Lecturer at King's College, London, for the best English scholar at Miss Stephen's, Denmark House, Scarborough, was this year gained by Miss Atkinson, daughter of the Rev. J. C. Atkinson, Vicar of Danby.

Edward Fiennes Elton, of Bradfield, was on the 19th ult., elected to the open foundation scholarship.

The Christmas distribution of prizes took place at the Islington Proprietary School, on Wednesday week, in the presence of a large number of the friends and relatives of the pupils. The Rev. Prebendary Wilson, Vicar, the president of the school, occupied the chair.

On Tuesday week the Christmas breaking-up entertainment of the pupils of The College, Highbury New Park, took place in the presence of a very large assembly, including a number of distinguished visitors. Bishop Clapham presided.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The Corporation has voted £105 to the funds of the North Eastern Hospital for Children, Hackney-road.

Prizes won by students of the Royal Polytechnic College were distributed last week by the Lord Mayor.

It is announced that Smith's vacuum brake is being applied to the whole of the rolling stock of the Metropolitan Railway.

Mr. Alderman Stone has accepted the invitation of the Mayor of Liverpool (Mr. R. F. Steble) to dine with him at the Townhall on the 4th of March next.

Mrs. Howard Paul will begin a limited series of representations of her popular entertainment at Westbourne Hall, Bayswater, on Monday next. She will be assisted by Mr. Walter Pelham and Miss Blanche Navarre.

The Bank Holiday of Saturday was very generally observed, and there was an almost total cessation from business throughout London. The places of amusement were, as is usual on Boxing Day, crowded.

The Sacred Harmonic Society perform Haydn's oratorio "The Creation" at Exeter Hall on Friday next, the 8th inst., with Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Mr. Vernon Rigby, and Signor Agnesi as principal vocalists.

The Empress of Russia having left £10 to be expended for the benefit of the poor of St. George's-in-the-East, the board of guardians resolved to give the inmates of the workhouse a treat on New-Year's night, the board having already voted a sum for an entertainment on Boxing Day.

The *Democrata*, built for the Mexican Government by Messrs. J. and G. Rennie, was launched last week at the yard of that firm at Greenwich. The vessel is a sloop of war, and is a sister ship to the *Mexico*, which was launched from the same yard a short time since.

A meeting of ratepayers of Lambeth was held on Wednesday at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, to decide as to whether the Free Libraries Act should be adopted for the borough or not. The meeting—a most noisy one—answered the question in the negative.

In consequence of the refusal of railway companies to allow the insurance of goods and parcels above £10 in value, it was resolved at a meeting of City gentlemen last week to support Mr. H. W. Jackson's motion for an inquiry into the operation of the Carriers' Act.

An agitation has begun in Lambeth for the erection of a free public library in that district of the metropolis. The first of a series of meetings took place on Monday night, at which the subject was discussed. The proposal met with some opposition, but this preliminary meeting expressed an opinion favourable to the scheme.

The directors of the Improved Industrial Dwellings Company have, with the assistance of some leading architects, awarded the premiums for designs and plans of houses suitable for the working classes, but they think that the cost of any of the plans would far exceed the sum to which they have hitherto been restricted.

Mr. Spurgeon presided on Wednesday night at the annual meeting of the Pastors' College connected with his Tabernacle, and, after having made a statement respecting the work of the college, delivered his characteristic lecture called "Sermons on Candles." In the course of the proceedings a subscription bust of Mr. Spurgeon (by Mr. J. Adams-Acton) was unveiled.

Mr. Forsyth, M.P. for Marylebone, in presiding last week at the distribution of prizes in connection with the West London School of Art, referred to such institutions as a means of improving the public taste, and of redressing in course of time even such evils as the disgraceful state in which the streets of London sometimes were. Mr. George A. Stewart, headmaster of the school, read a report, in which he testified to the continued prosperity of the institution.

According to the statistics of the London workhouses which are usually published by the morning newspapers on the day after Christmas day, the total number of indoor poor amounts to 36,389; the outdoor poor—adults, 35,542; and children, 24,626—together 96,557, as against 105,941 at the corresponding period (Christmas) of 1873, showing the decrease of pauperism to be, as compared with last year, 9,384 persons.

About two hundred poor foreigners were invited by Mr. and Mrs. George Moore to partake of supper on Monday in the lecture hall of Craven Chapel, Soho. After the meal the Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P., took the chair, and addressed the meeting briefly in French. He referred to the work undertaken by Mr. Moore during the siege of Paris, and read an address bearing on the subject on the part of Mrs. Moore.

The first concert of the third season of the Royal Albert Hall Amateur Orchestral Society, of which the Duke of Edinburgh is president, will take place on Saturday, Jan. 23, at 8.30 p.m. The Prince and Princess of Wales have given their patronage to the concert, the proceeds of which will be devoted to St. Thomas's Hospital, Westminster. The tickets will be obtainable through the members of the "society," at the Royal Albert Hall ticket-office, and at the treasurer's office, St. Thomas's Hospital, Westminster.

Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., presided last week at the distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Holborn Estate Grammar School, in the parish of St. Clement Danes. In his address he appealed to the friends of the school to make middle-class education as thorough and satisfactory as possible, the great object to be kept in view being to qualify all children for that station in life which they would have to occupy. The report of the examiner, Mr. Lupton, stated that the average of efficiency of former years had been fully sustained, the points of improvement being more numerous than the defects, particularly in writing and in French.

As the result of a chemical analysis of the waters furnished to the metropolis during December, Dr. Frankland reports that, in consequence of the Thames being in flood in the early part of the month, the companies drawing their storages from that river experienced the usual difficulties in supplying efficiently filtered water. In the water of the Grand Junction and Lambeth Companies "living and moving organisms" were found. The Chelsea Company's water, however, besides "abundance of such organisms, contained fragments of woollen and cotton fabrics, clots of the mycelium of a fungus, and fibres of partially digested or decomposed flesh meat." Dr. Frankland further adds, "the water thus charged with refuse matters was unfit for dietetic purposes, and could not be so used without serious risk to health."

The annual general meeting in connection with the Commercial Travellers' Schools charitable institution was held on Monday at the London Tavern—Mr. Daniel Harvest presiding. Mr. H. Lendon, the secretary, read the report, which stated that the subscriptions for the past year amounted to £4684, while new subscriptions realised £513. The donations were £1671, and the amount realised by simultaneous collection was £1788. Presentations had been received amounting to £832, while the dividends and interest were £1243, giving a total of £10,783 from ordinary sources, showing an increase over the receipts of last year of £1307. The health of the children during the year had been very favourable, and the educational progress was satisfactory. At the anniversary dinner last week (presided over by Mr. W. Longman) £1634 was subscribed. The simultaneous collection on "Orphans' Day" in October last has resulted in the realisation of £1033. The total receipts for the year amounted to £12,241, and the disbursements to £11,898.

The Artisans', Labourers', and General Dwellings Company have undertaken to build a new workmen's city in the west of London, near the Harrow-road, calculated to accommodate about 16,000 persons, and to be similar in its main features to the Shaftesbury Park estate at Lavender-hill. It is to be termed the Queen's Park. The plans of the estate which is now about to be commenced vary somewhat from those formed for Shaftesbury Park, though the architectural features of the latter, which have given the utmost satisfaction, and have been largely copied, will be retained. Instead of roads, the park will be divided into six main avenues, planted throughout their entire length with trees; and from these avenues will deviate about twenty streets, which it is proposed to name in alphabetical order, on the principle of the blocks in American cities. Trees will also be planted on each side of these streets, and the architecture of the various classes of houses will be so varied as altogether to remove any appearance of monotony which they might otherwise present. The ground to be covered by the estate covers an area of eighty acres, and of this number several acres have been set apart for a park and recreation ground, and spaces are reserved for the adjuncts of a town.

Last week 1840 births and 1646 deaths were registered in London. The cold weather has not apparently augmented the death-rate, the deaths being 113 below the average. The annual death-rate from all causes, which in the three previous weeks had been equal to 33, 32, and 30 per 1000, further declined last week to 25. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs and phthisis, which in the three previous weeks had been 926, 874, and 814, further declined last week to 685, which exceeded the corrected weekly average by 57; 268 resulted from bronchitis, 149 from phthisis, and 105 from pneumonia. The deaths from scarlet fever, which in the five previous weeks had declined from 124 to 76, further fell to 65 last week, and were 2 above the average number. There were 2 deaths from smallpox, 9 from measles, 65 from scarlet fever, 12 from diphtheria, 38 from whooping-cough, 33 from different forms of fever, and 6 from diarrhoea. The 33 deaths referred to fever showed a further decline from those returned in recent weeks, and were 24 below the corrected average weekly number; they included 3 certified as typhus, 23 as enteric or typhoid, and 7 as simple continued fever. The mean temperature was 29.9 deg. or 8.3 deg. below the average of fifty years. The mean was considerably below the average on each day of the week, and was lowest on Wednesday, when it was only 23.5 deg., and the deficiency so great as 14.6 deg.—The death-rate in Glasgow last week reached the extraordinary figure of fifty per 1000, a degree of mortality which is mainly attributable to the severity of the weather.

A hundred and twelve years of European history, which takes us back to Louis XV. of France, Maria Theresa of Austria, and Frederick the Great of Prussia, have elapsed since the first publication of the "Almanach de Gotha." Its appearance, as usual, for the year 1875, from the renowned establishment of Justus Perthes, is a pledge of the continued stability of monarchical institutions among the most prosperous civilised nations of Christendom. It is true that France is here represented by a President, Marshal MacMahon, whose portrait we find among the earliest pages of the little volume; and we hardly know what is the real Government of Spain, with its President, Marshal Serrano. But the dynastic connections of princely houses retain their ancient political importance, as well as the official and statistical particulars recorded in this useful work.

LAW AND POLICE.

The Queen's letter appointing Dr. Ball to the Lord Chancellorship of Ireland was received in Dublin on Monday.—Lord Justice Christian, in giving judgment, last week, in a case which came before the Irish Court of Appeal in Chancery, commented upon the good feeling which had prevailed amongst those who have presided in that court since the Lord Chancellorship of Ireland was put in commission, and expressed a hope that the time would soon arrive when by law the claims of party service should not be seen competing with those of judicial duty.

Mr. Campbell Foster has been appointed to the Recordership of Warwick, vacant on the resignation of Mr. Beasley, on his appointment as Recorder of Hull; Mr. Metcalfe, Q.C., succeeds the late Mr. O'Malley, Q.C., as Recorder of Norwich; and Mr. W. Cooper, of the Norfolk Circuit, has been appointed Recorder of Ipswich.

In the Sheriffs' Court, last week, the action "Conto v. Styles," which was one for breach of promise of marriage, was sent down from the Exchequer Court for the assessment of damages, which were laid in the declaration at £1000. The defendant, Henry Percy Styles, a clerk in the establishment of Messrs. Copestakes, Bow-churchyard, had allowed judgment to go by default, and the only question was the compensation to be awarded. The jury awarded £100.

At the suit of Mr. Malden, of Biggleswade, a verdict of £8000 damages has been given in the Court of Queen's Bench against the Great Northern Railway Company for personal injuries sustained by the plaintiff at King's-cross station.

A Scotch will case, which occupied the Court of Session for several days, was concluded on Monday. The late Mr. John Todd, of Glenduff-hill, Lanarkshire, by his will left his property to his son-in-law, Mr. James Mackenzie, of Glentore. The will was disputed by the testator's nephew, who maintained that Mr. Mackenzie obtained the will from the deceased while he was not of "sound disposing mind," owing to his intemperate habits. The jury returned a verdict in favour of the nephew. The estate is valued at £90,000.

George Phipps, a Dorsetshire butcher, was brought before Sir R. W. Carden, at the Guildhall, last week, for having sent bad meat to market, and was committed to prison for a month.

John King was brought before the Worship-street magistrates, on Tuesday, for having forged and uttered bills of exchange to the amount of £258. The bills (which had been discounted by a tradesman) bore forged acceptances; and the prisoner admitted having fabricated them, and said that he did not intend to defraud the prosecutor; but that, finding himself unable to meet the bills, he contemplated suicide. He was committed for trial.

Frederick Brice, a corn merchant, living in St. Pancras, was prosecuted, at Clerkenwell, on Monday, for having fired a revolver, charged with bullets, at his sister and a man in his employment. The prisoner had been ill, and was locked in his house. His sister and the man having managed to obtain admission, he got up and shot at them, though without hitting them. For the defence it was urged that the prisoner mistook them for burglars, but he was committed for trial.

Philip Braum, a tobacconist, was charged at Marylebone, on Tuesday, with having robbed Mrs. Hoppey, a lady who lodged at the house in which he lived, of £1500 in India Bonds, two £5 notes, and other money and valuables. It was stated that the prisoner and his wife had changed two of the notes, and that the rest of the property was found in the lower part of his house, but he denied having taken it. A remand was granted.

At the Thames Police Court, on Tuesday, a captain in the merchant service was fined £12 10s. on four summonses charging him with having neglected to supply a sufficient quantity of lime-juice and sugar to his crew.

Mr. Hunt, a gentleman living at Notting-hill, was aroused from his sleep by the police on Christmas morning. On going down stairs he and the constable found a burglar concealed behind the curtains in the drawing-room.

There have been many murderous assaults during the week.

One of a party of men who, in a common lodging-house in Pimlico, on Saturday night, had violently assaulted the landlord, and had thrown his son out of a window at a height of fourteen feet, was brought before the Westminster magistrate on Monday, and was remanded previous to being committed for trial on the charge of attempted murder. The other persons accused escaped.

During a quarrel among some Italians lodging in a house in Eyre-street-hill, Holborn, on Tuesday afternoon, the landlady, Dominica Valenti, was stabbed and killed. Two of the lodgers are in custody on suspicion.

Henry Hawkshaw was charged at the Brentford Petty Sessions, last Saturday, with having violently kicked his wife, whom he had deserted, and with having assaulted a tradesman by whom she was employed as housekeeper. He was sentenced to six months' hard labour for the first assault, and one month for the second, and was also fined 40s. and costs for having damaged the tradesman's shop front.

Edward Ives, of the Royal Artillery, was examined before the Rochford petty magistrates, on Tuesday, on a charge of attempting to murder Sergeant-Major Learson by stabbing him with a sword bayonet. Prisoner had been reported by the sergeant-major for drunkenness, and been sentenced to an extra guard. He was remanded. Learson lies in a dangerous condition.

Captain Austin, master of the ship Ironsides, which arrived in the Mersey on Sunday, has been arrested on a charge of manslaughter, the allegation being that on his homeward voyage he ran down a fishing-smack off Morecambe Bay. Two of the crew jumped on board the Ironsides, but the remaining two were drowned—the vessel, it is stated, passing on without stopping.

While a father and son named Jessop were wrestling, at Wombwell, near Barnsley, on Sunday night, John Skiverton, a stepson of the former, fired a pistol, and the latter was wounded in the head and killed. Skiverton, on Monday, was brought before the magistrates and remanded.

An outrage, which is said to have resulted fatally, has been committed at a place near Limerick. A man was attacked and beaten by two persons of an opposite faction, and his wife, who ran to help him, was also murderously assaulted. The perpetrators of the crime are in custody.

Frederick Henderson, an engineer, is in custody at Glasgow on the charge of having caused the death of his wife by striking and kicking her.

Hugh Daley, who was convicted at the last Durham Assizes of the murder of a drunken and helpless man, named Philip Burdy, by beating him with a poker for two hours, was hanged on Monday morning in Durham Gaol.

Robert Taylor, aged twenty-one, miner, was on Tuesday morning hanged in Stafford Gaol for the murder of Mrs. Kidd, at Hoarcross, near Burton-on-Trent.

ACCIDENTS.

In addition to the terrible railway accident near Oxford and the burning of the Cospatrick at sea, we have a multitude of mishaps to chronicle.

On Christmas morning there was a collision between a passenger train and a coal train, at Spring's Branch, near Wigan, on the London and North Western Railway. One death and injuries to about twenty persons were the results. Another railway accident happened at the Spring's Branch junction, near Wigan, on Saturday night. A coal train, travelling at a rapid rate, ran into another, and great damage was done; and four persons were seriously injured. A collision between a passenger train and a goods train also took place last Monday night at Haughley junction, on the Great Eastern Railway, and several persons were hurt, but none seriously. Several railway accidents happened last Wednesday. At the Brixton station of the London, Chatham, and Dover line a Crystal Palace train ran into a City train. The guard's van of the latter was smashed, and several passengers were shaken, but no serious injuries were sustained. Earlier in the day a number of wagons broke loose on the Cornwall mineral line, and ran down an incline for three miles. Several persons who were in the guard's van jumped out, and were more or less injured. A goods train and a passenger train also broke down on different parts of the Great Western Railway, through the fracture of axles, but no one was hurt in either case. The heavy falls of snow, it may be stated, have rendered railway travelling very difficult in many parts of the country.

One of the most hopeful items of maritime news (as having an indirect bearing on the missing boat of the Cospatrick) comes from China, whence we learn that some more survivors of the mail steamer Japan, which was recently burnt at sea, have arrived at Hong-Kong, including 120 Chinese. On the other hand, another fatal shipwreck is reported. The steamer Delfina struck on a rock off the west coast of South America, and between twenty and thirty of her passengers and crew were drowned. Six others escaped in a boat, and about as many more were saved by clinging to the rigging. Several disasters to British ships in the Bay of Biscay are reported from Gibraltar. The schooner Vesper, of Hull, and the brigantine Accra, of Guernsey, have been abandoned in a sinking state, but their crews have been saved. The barques Pedral, of Liverpool, and Lady Head, of Hull, were also seriously damaged in the recent gales. The ship Tennyson arrived in Greenock on Wednesday, having on board a part of the crew of the Calcutta, of London, which took fire and was abandoned while on her voyage from Newcastle to Aden with coals. The Calcutta left Newcastle in July last, and when two months and eleven days out her cargo was discovered to be on fire. The captain and crew, twenty-eight in number, abandoned her in three boats. The crews of two of the boats were picked up after being five and eight days at sea respectively, and landed at St. Helena; but the third boat, in which were Captain Patchet and his son, with nine seamen and mate, has not been heard of since. There is reason to fear that the General Steam Navigation Company's steamer Scorpio, which left Cardiff on the 4th inst. for Charente, with a cargo of coals, has been lost, with all hands, twenty-six in number, as wreckage, bearing the name of the vessel, has been washed ashore at Barnstaple. A Norwegian barque has landed at Queenstown two survivors of the crew of an American ship the Amity, which foundered at sea about forty miles south of Kinsale. When the Norge discovered the wreck only four men remained clinging to the rigging. Two were picked off by a boat, but the others refused to let go, and during the night they disappeared with the wreck. Eighteen lives in all have been lost.

An explosion on Christmas Eve at the Bignall Hill Colliery, Staffordshire, made many hearths desolate this Christmas. Twenty-two persons were known to be in the pit, but the bodies of seventeen colliers only were recovered. At the instant a "butty" named George Tryer deposed to having heard the report of the explosion and run forward towards the working, when his lamp was extinguished. He stated that the seam had generally been worked with naked lights, and the report books showed that no gas had been observed till recently. The inquiry was adjourned.

Boiler explosions, arising from the freezing of water pipes, occurred at Chorley on Sunday, and at Fulwood on Monday. By the first accident six persons were seriously injured; and by the second, which happened in the Preston Union Workhouse at Fulwood, one child was killed and two others were severely scalded. Additional boiler explosions are reported from other towns.

Captain Shaw's list of fires in London during the Christmas holidays included three attended with fatal results. On the premises of Messrs. Hewett and Co., Eliza-place, Brick-lane, Old-ford, a fire was caused on Saturday morning by the upsetting of a spirit lamp, and William Rogers, aged sixty-two years, was burned to death. At 134, Drury-lane there was a fire early the same morning when Rebecca Parr, aged sixty-three years, was burned to death. A woman named Ellen M. Wright, aged thirty years, in a fire at Ann's-place, Millman's-row, King's-road Chelsea, was so severely burned while drunk that she died after her removal to St. George's Hospital.

Last week there was a great fire, the sixth which had taken place in the town within the space of a fortnight, at the seed and flax warehouse of Messrs. Hill, of Hull. The damage is believed to amount to £40,000. On Monday night a fire almost equally destructive broke out at the hop warehouse of Messrs. Latter, Maze Pond, Bermondsey.—On Tuesday the sawmills of Messrs. Driver, of Southampton, were burnt down, and thirty families living close by were rendered homeless. The damage is estimated at £10,000. One person was burnt to death. The large sugar-refinery of M. Lefort, at Bauvin, Nord, has also been totally destroyed by fire.

From an official document recently issued it appears that there are 790 co-operative societies in England and Wales, with 340,930 members.

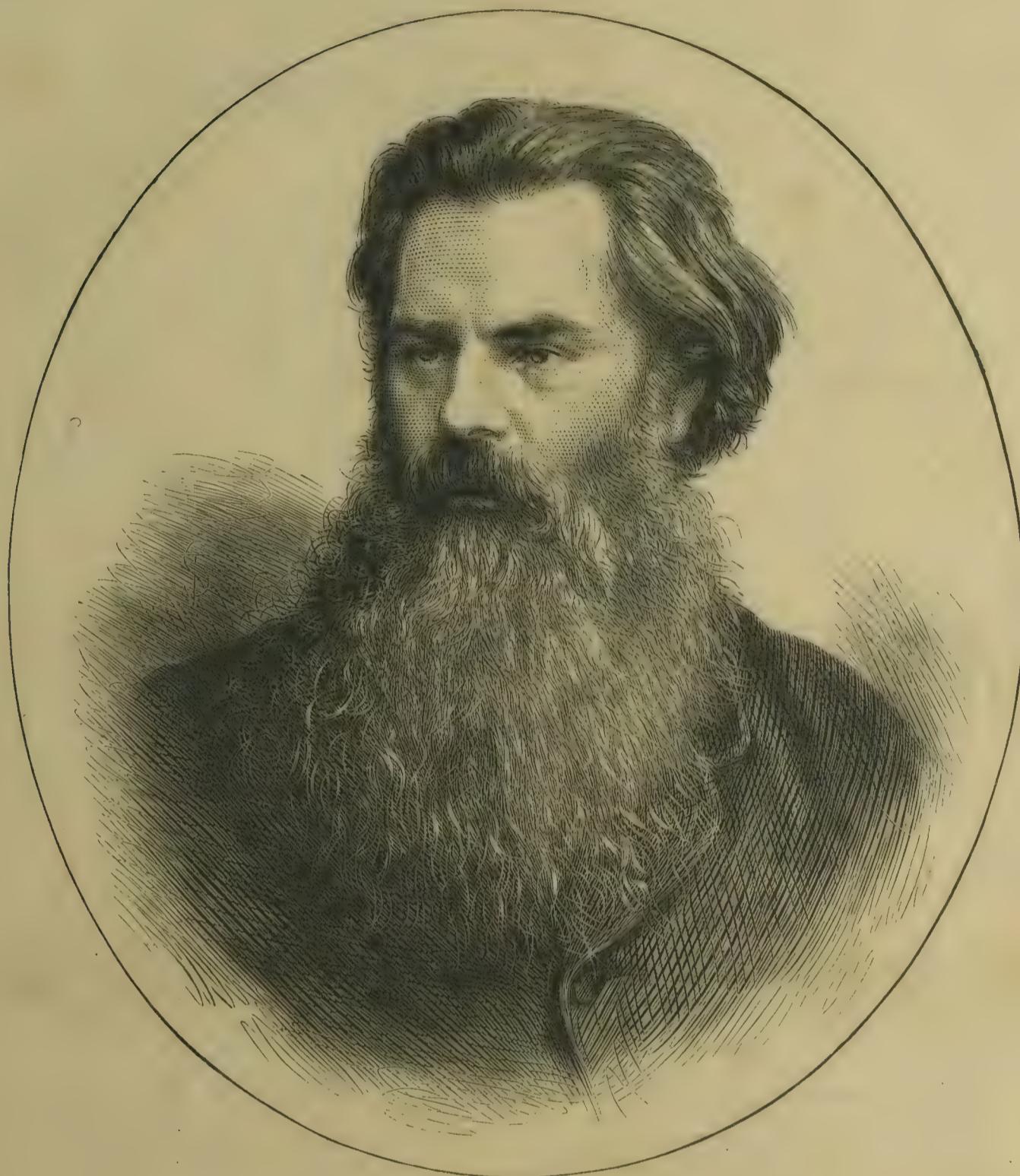
The new Board of Admiralty is gazetted as follows:—The Right Hon. G. W. Hunt, M.P., Admiral Sir A. Milne, Rear-Admiral Hornby, Captain Lord Gilford, and Sir Massey Lopes, M.P.

An educational congress, convened under the auspices of the Educational Institute of Scotland and of the Association of Higher Class Schoolmasters, has this week held its sittings in the Corporation Galleries, Glasgow. There was a large attendance of members. Dr. Hodgson, Professor of Political Economy in Edinburgh University, presided.

Earl Spencer opened the Kettering Industrial Exhibition on Tuesday. Countess Spencer and Mr. S. Sackville, M.P., were among those present. In his opening address the noble Earl alluded to the fact that the Exhibition of 1851 inaugurated a movement which had proved very beneficial to the people of this country by fostering a taste for art. The local exhibitions greatly aided in promulgating an improved taste in both art and manufactures. Mr. Sackville also spoke.



THE CHRISTMAS PANTOMIMES.



THOMAS WOOLNER, ESQ., R.A.



RAILWAY BRIDGE OVER THE GANGES AT RAJGIR.

HOME FOR FEMALE ORPHANS WHO HAVE LOST BOTH PARENTS, Grove-road, St. John's Wood. Instituted 1786. This old Institution is suffering greatly for want of funds, and the Committee have been compelled to postpone the payment of interest in consequence. It is, however, a large sum that is promised to give £50 towards paying off the amount, if the remainder is contributed by the end of January. The following have been contributed or promised:—
 A Lady (the proposer) £20; Miss L. Physick and Friend, by ditto 20; Friends 20; Miss M. L. Belcher 25; 10; C. P. S. 10; Other Contributions 15; 5.
CONTRIBUTIONS to make up the balance of £22 will be thankfully received by the Hon. Secy., E. B. Randall, Esq., 4, North-west-terrace, Maida-hill; the Treasurer, T. Frothero, Esq., 16, Cleveland-gardens, Hyde Park; or the Bankers, Messrs. Williams and Co., 20, Bircham-lane. Any information will be furnished by the Hon. Secy., the Treasurer, or at the Institution.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—At the commencement of the year there will be VACANCIES for TWO PUPILS in a large and well-known Engineering Establishment in the suburbs of London, where a thorough knowledge of all the branches of Mechanical Engineering is taught. Very healthy locality, and, if desired, board and comfortable lodgings can be obtained with members of the staff within a convenient distance of works. Apply for particulars by letter to "M. C. E." care of Mr. George Newman, 79, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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FURNITURE DEPARTMENT. ELEGANT DRAWING-ROOM SUITES, handsomely carved Italian walnut-wood, covered in rich damask, from 8s. 6d. to 10s. 6d.; Dining-room Suites, in solid mahogany, 8s. 6d.; fine Spanish mahogany ditto, upholstered in best marone leather, 10s. 6d.; Lamp-stands down to 12s. 6d.; Glasses, large size, 2s. 6d.; elegant Cabinets, inlaid tulip and gilt mountings, from 2s. 6d. upwards; massive mahogany telescopic Dining Tables, from 42s. 6d. upwards; Chiffonieres, Sideboards, &c. Easy-Chairs, from 1s. 6d. upwards. An immense assortment to select from. OETZMANN and CO.

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and every kind of Carpeting manufactured; also an immense Stock of STAIR CARPETING.

SEVERAL THOUSAND HEARTHURGS will also be cleared out at a great reduction, the best Axminster Hearthurgs, listed, page 13, in our Catalogue, at 2s. will be sold out at 1s. 6d. each; and other descriptions, listed at 1s. 6d., at 1s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.; and other goods in this department are reduced in proportion. An early visit of inspection respectfully solicited.

MADRID STRIPED CURTAINS, all Wool, 3 yards long by 48 inches wide, 1s. per pair; 3s. 6d. to 4 yards; 2s. 6d.; best Worsted Damask Curtains, in green, crimson, or any self-colour, plaited top, bordered all round with best embroidered silk lace, 3 yards long by 48 inches wide, 2s. 6d. per pair; 3s. 6d. to 4 yards, 2s. 6d.; best rope ditto, 3 yards by 74 inches wide, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.; 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. Forwarded same day on receipt of order. One trial will ensure a recommendation. No common damask or rayonised, sold, or advised. Descriptive Catalogues post-free.
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THE TERRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT: SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT AT SHIPTON-ON-CHERWELL.

TERRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT NEAR OXFORD.

On Thursday week, the day before Christmas Day, a little before noon, the train on the Great Western Railway line from Oxford to Wolverhampton met with an accident by which more than thirty passengers were killed and seventy were injured. This happened near the Shipton-on-Cherwell station, about six miles north of Oxford, towards Woodstock, and close to the Hampton Gay paper-mill. The cause of the disaster was the breaking of a wheel-tire of one of the carriages, which made a portion of the train go off the rails. It ran a length of three hundred and fifty yards off the rails, plunging over the sleepers and transoms or cutting them in two, crossed a wooden bridge over the Cherwell, and fell down an embankment into the meadows adjoining the Oxford and Birmingham Canal, which is here crossed by a railway bridge. The scene is shown in one of the illustrations, from a sketch made by our Artist not long after the accident. Two carriages of the train were shattered to pieces on the embankment. One crashed through the stone abutment of the bridge and fell on the canal bank, close to the water. Another, breaking loose from its couplings, was thrown up across the line, on the embankment above, falling on the off side of the line. Again, three carriages, with a luggage-van, were carried over the canal. The two engines and several front carriages, which had not gone off the rails, went along the line some distance. The train, which consisted of fifteen or sixteen carriages and vans, was going at a speed of forty miles an hour. The whole distance run and dragged and tumbled over, from where the tire of the wheel broke to the canal bridge, was three eighths of a mile. It is thought the train might have been stopped, or its speed abated, if the engine-driver had known of the damage to the wheel of a carriage behind him. An attempt was made to sound the gong or bell attached to a rope which passed along the top of the train. The bell did not sound, but the driver, Henry Richardson, saw the rope move, and shut off steam. It was too late to prevent the disaster.

When the survivors who were not disabled from effort to help themselves and others got together on the snow-covered ground, a dreadful sight was before them. Aided by the workmen of the Hampton Gay paper-mill, under the orders of Mr. R. Langton Pearson, the proprietor, they extricated the sufferers from the wreck of the carriages. Some were conveyed to Mr. Pearson's house, the manor-house of Hampton Gay, and there received such attendance as could be given. Lord Randolph Churchill, and several ladies of the Duke of Marlborough's family, from Blenheim, came with nourishment and cordials for those who lay at the paper-mill. After nearly an hour, as it is stated, a train from Oxford brought several medical gentlemen. Mr. Mallam was the surgeon first on the spot, and was followed by Mr. Parry, of Kidlington, Mr. F. Symonds, Mr. G. Hitchings, and others. The wounded, in most instances, were conveyed to Oxford by a special train. Fifty were placed in the Radcliffe Infirmary; the others were received at New College, at the Randolph Hotel, at Jones's Railway Hotel, and at the King's Arms Hotel. Dr. Hitchings, Dr. Mayo, and others attended them. The railway officials, with Captain Owen, Chief Constable, at the head of a police force, and with the aid of two neighbouring gentlemen, General Devereux and Mr. Marjoribanks, kept order at the scene of the disaster. The dead bodies at Hampton Gay, twenty-six in number, were laid out for examination in a shed at the paper-mill. Four or five others lay dead at Oxford, having been too much injured to survive their removal or in a hopeless state from the first.

The following list of the dead at Hampton Gay, as far as they could be identified, was issued on Sunday:—Humphrey Williams, 34, Rushton-street, Hoxton, London; W. Kavanagh, labourer, Wolverhampton; Mrs. White, 18, New Inn, Hall-street, Oxford; Mr. Sylvester, Oxford; Miss Margaret Laverick, Highclere Castle, Newbury, housekeeper to the Earl of Carnarvon; Harry Johnson, carpenter, Hanley; Captain C. J. Cooley, of the merchant service, 96, Talbot-road, Paddington; Henry Hill, moulder, 83, Andrew-street, King Richard's-road, Leicester; Albert Fowler, 365, Moseley-road, Birmingham; John Gardner, coachmaker, Manchester, in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company at Swindon; John Howard Harper, Brereton House, Bilton, Staffordshire; Dr. John Edward Richards, 12, Cassland-grove, South Hackney, London; Sarah Yeates, wife of W. Yeates, Hannington, near Highworth, Wilts; Harry Ernest Van Tromp, 21, Inverness-terrace, London; Jane Pearson, daughter of J. B. Pearson, Princess-street, Shrewsbury; John Thomas Hughes, barrister-at-law, 2, Middle Temple-lane, London; Joseph Shaw, zincworker, Birmingham; John T. Pilkington, civil engineer, Wrexham, and his son, a young sailor; Eliza Holme, Lichfield, Staffordshire; James Ellis Frankwell, Shrewsbury; John Pilkington, jun., Church Hey, Wrexham; Samuel Bushby, Curbridge, near Witney, village postmaster. Jane Grimshaw, aged twenty-six, single woman, of St. Dunstan-road, Bow, has since been recognised among the dead.

Of the dead bodies at the railway station at Oxford the following have been identified:—A young man named Harris, engineer, of Bilton; John Danby, Egham; a child named Albert Fairfield. The body of a man, between twenty and thirty years of age, having apparently just left work, had not yet been identified. The remaining dead body, that of Mr. Caesar, greengrocer, of Egham, lay at the Radcliffe Infirmary.

At the Randolph Hotel there are four patients—going on well. One is the Rev. Mr. Hook, son of the Dean of Chichester, suffering from dislocation of the collar-bone and the fracture of one rib; Mr. Field, of Wadham College, a young man of twenty-five, is suffering from lacerated scalp and injury to the chest. Messrs. Symonds and Taunton are attending the Rev. C. Deane, at the Clarendon Hotel, for a fractured leg. He, too, is an Oxford man, having been educated at Queen's.

An inquest was opened on Saturday, at Hampton Gay, by Mr. W. Brunner, Coroner for the city and county of Oxford. It was adjourned to Monday, when the same Coroner also held an inquest at Oxford on those lying dead at the railway station there. The body of young Mr. Van Tromp was identified by his father, a London solicitor, who has thus lost his only child. Many of the persons killed were on their way to visit friends at Christmas. At the inquest, when opened, Mr. Webster, of the Home Circuit, appeared for the Great Western Railway Company, the officials of the company present being Mr. Grierson, general manager; Mr. Armstrong, locomotive general superintendent at Swindon; Mr. Tyrrell, general superintendent; Mr. Stevens, divisional superintendent; Mr. Gibbs, station-master at Oxford; and Dr. Cooper, the surgeon of the company, together with a large number of the friends of the deceased. Colonel Yolland, inspector for the Board of Trade, has been making inquiries at the scene of the accident, and is assisted by Mr. Ravenhill as legal adviser to the Board. Her Majesty the Queen has sent a kind message, through Sir W. Jenner, M.D., asking how the persons injured are getting on towards recovery.

The illustrations we have prepared show the scene at the canal bridge, with the fragments of the train on the canal banks and in the water; the wreck of a first-class carriage,

which was hideous to look upon, as the woodwork and cushions were stained with blood; and, lastly, the sorrowful business of identifying the dead at Hampton Gay Paper-Mills. With reference to this subject, we will quote a description written by our Artist upon his visit to the scene of the disaster on Christmas Day:—

"Leaving the carriage and retracing my steps along the line, I went down a path of slush and mire to a range of low buildings, where the most painful part of my duty was to be accomplished. Passing the policeman at the door, I entered what may be described as a low, bare, whitewashed cellar, with deep-set windows of small square panes of glass, through which the dim light struggled, adding a gloom to the awful spectacle of twenty-six mutilated corpses lying in grim array on their beds of straw, awaiting identification for the inquest before their removal. There are times in every man's life when all the fortitude of his nature must be summoned and the heart must be subdued by the will; yet with all the determination I could command to overcome the effect of the scene, I found myself weak to struggle against the emotions that awoke within me as I looked on the silent forms of husband, wife, brother, and sister stretched before me, crushed and battered out of existence, without a moment's notice, and in the full tide of expectant joy.

"One instance I witnessed of heart-rending grief that will remain indelibly impressed on my memory. Amongst the dead lay a young and handsome youth of twenty-one years awaiting recognition. Hearing the rustle of a dress close by, my attention was fixed on a lady who had just entered. She was anxiously scanning the mute faces, and in a moment, as with motherly instinct singling out her son, she fell prostrate, convulsed with the agony of her unutterable anguish, over the cold face of her dead boy, raining kisses on the lips that answered not to her love, and clinging in terrible despair to the beloved form. Beside her was the father, loudly sobbing, as he leaned against the piles of paper, watched by the silent policemen. At last the mother was gently forced away, giving a parting look that spoke of no hope of consolation on this side of the grave."

DIARIES.

Why, in this preposterous age, when all other things are getting later—dinner having become the old supper, sunrise a tradition of the poets, a thing that used to be—why should publications of every sort "like a crab go backwards," and appear long before the dates on which they are properly due? Do any weekly newspapers nowadays really make their first appearance on Saturday—except, of course, the Sunday ones? Even the Christmas annuals, which of all things should, one would think, keep to their time, are to be seen on bookstalls and in shops before the first frost has given warning of the approach of winter; and their industrious authors must write elaborate descriptions of heavy snowfalls, of ice-bound rivers, and travellers frozen to death, while they sit with open window, vainly trying with cooling drinks to make work beneath a July sun possible.

And diaries and almanacks are as bad as the annuals. Who on earth wants to be reminded in early autumn that he can procure a folio diary, a page to each day (fancy doing a page-full on any one day in the year!), roan tuck with gilt edges (whatever roan tuck may be), giving a calendar, cash account, and much valuable information about assessed taxes and bank holidays, for five shillings? One can understand some anxiety on the part of patrons of Old Moore and Zadkiel, and other prophetic gentlemen, to know the events of the coming year as soon as possible; but why publishers of pocket-books intended for people who can see no immediate connection between the transit of Venus and Mr. Gladstone's pamphlet should be in such a hurry to remind a man that the little bald place on the top of his head is a year older, it is difficult to see.

However, as the diaries have been here now for a month or two, and the time of their coming into use is really drawing nigh, let us look at them—at this passing year's and the new one, the pages filled nearly to the end, and those all white and unblotted. There is something very prim about a new pocket-book, a neat little one to be worn in the waistcoat, with the white top of its pencil peeping out coyly above the gilded leaves, and its pockets precise and flat, not bulging out with the little treasures of the year; though the battered form of the companion of a twelvemonth is dearer by the memories it awakes than unsuggestive tidiness can ever be.

Looking through an old diary is a queer, unsatisfactory occupation, though: one's doings seem so very small, especially if one's intentions are also recorded to be compared with them. And the memories which some entries were intended to preserve for ever, how have they faded, gone clean away!—though sometimes one comes across a line which brings back with startling clearness the day whose epitaph it may be called. Like a faded rosebud stored in a secret drawer, three hastily-written words may call up the undying remembrance of sad parting hours—of vows true and imperishable—of clasping hands and eyelashes wet with tears; or they may recall nothing, not the name of the giver of the flower, even though her initial (so all-sufficient once!) be written down before us. This is a world of quaint and pitiful changes.

But what a bare skeleton of a life a diary is, at best—a skeleton from which it would take one greater than Owen to reconstruct the living body and limbs, with all their faults and beauties, habits and powers! Perhaps the truest and most real facts of a life are those of which no record at all appears—even, it may be, those which to him who lives the life seem less important than the passing victories and losses of the day.

After all, what is it that moulds a character, that makes a man what in his real self he is? Is more owing to the prominent facts of his history, the great remembered sorrows and successes, or to his everyday associates, his books, his amusements, the nature of his daily work? No man enters in his diary, day after day, "two hours of adding up figures"—yet such hours must certainly modify his mind, affect his whole nature. To be sure, such an occupation becomes after a while almost entirely mechanical, but it has its effect—"like the dyer's hand," our natures are subdued to what they work in; as is proved by the undeniable family likeness often to be seen between men of the same profession. Many clergymen are singularly alike—almost all have similar voices; and soldiers, sailors, actors, are nearly always to be recognised. Indeed, though one cannot always guess what is a man's profession, one can generally, knowing it, trace some of the habits, powers, and tendencies of mind it has engendered, in his conversation, his actions—even his diary.

But diaries, of course, differ almost as widely as those who keep them. There are pure business diaries, hardly interesting even to the writers when their use is over; and, their exact opposite, there are records of feelings almost entirely to the exclusion of facts, indulged in by many girls and by some enthusiastic and poetic youths. It is difficult to say which of the two extremes gives the more complete view of a life—or, rather, which view is the less miserably incomplete. The draper's

record—bought so many stockings at such a price of so-and-so—sounds utterly without a meaning beyond the bare fact that money was paid for certain goods; but to the writer it may recall a cunning bargain made, a cruel profiting by the necessities of some poor fellow on the verge of bankruptcy, or a generous help lent at personal loss to a struggling man. Yet, even viewed thus, buying and selling are not nearly the whole of life; "there are more things in heaven and earth" than can be entered in ledgers or day-books. Friendly talk, with its friction, its awakening and soothing power; the interest aroused by outer sights and sounds, by the poetry, the misery, the mechanism of life; love, anger, ambition, despair. These things, the conscious spirits, of which trade and routine labours are but the food and framework, leave no trace in such diaries—can hardly, even to the writer, be expressed in "bought stockings of so-and-so."

On the other hand, the elaborate record of thoughts and feelings (mostly of morbid and sentimental nature) is the story of life without its backbone. Often as doing and thinking are one, inseparable as they should always be, there is yet a very plain sense in which it may be said that man lives to do and not to think; and if one's diary records, in place of business transacted, real work done, only the effect of moonlight on one's troubled mind, or of the presence of some young man (or woman, as the case may be) on one's nervous system generally, it is clear that one's life is either thoroughly wanting in strength and purpose, or most incompletely represented in one's diary.

It has always been a question whether it is wise to keep a diary at all. It is, no doubt, a practice tending to encourage self-consciousness, and, perhaps, harmful to conceited or over-dreamy natures. But, if kept with any fulness, a diary is likely often to remind us of the fact before mentioned, that "there are more things in heaven and earth" than the philosophy most men dream of; and, to a mind too much absorbed in cash-book and ledger, too idle in its higher elements, such reminders may do real good.

Shall we keep a diary at all?—is it worth while to invest in the roan tuck and gilt edges, the assessed taxes and bank holidays, for another year? It may tend to make us think more of that already sufficiently interesting subject—ourselves; but may it not occasionally remind us, as we look through its pages at the year's end, that the affairs which fill it are, after all, very poor and petty and unworthy; that a life's record ought not to be such painfully humiliating reading? Of course, if we are quite certain to achieve greatness, we ought, for the sake of an appreciative posterity, to record our smallest doings, feelings, thoughts. Will not the twentieth century be eager to learn where and how Genius was in the habit of dining, what newspapers Genius took in, when Genius made the acquaintance of Mrs. G., and all the particulars of their courtship and marriage? The only difficulty is that a man cannot very well be certain whether future ages, or even his own, will care twopence about him; if he must wait for proof positive, nobody—if he might rely on his own feelings at some period of his life, almost everybody—would, on the strength of prospective fame, add to the world's stock of diaries.

THEATRES.

GAETY.
Shakspeare lives again. Sometime his star has waned, but it is now in the ascendant. Great master-poet and dramatist, his genius is a living fire that burns perpetually, defying even the cold blasts of a cynical, non-appreciative age to dim its brightness. He cannot die; or, rather, he dies but to resuscitate. Like the phoenix of the ancients, he expires one day, to arise the next from his own ashes, more youthful and vigorous than before. Inside two West-End theatres, close neighbours to each other, Shakspeare holds dominion. His sceptre is a magic wand that conjures up opposing spirits, distributing tears and smiles according to his pleasure. In one domain appears Melpomene, Thalia in the other—tragedy and comedy—"Hamlet" at the Lyceum and "The Merry Wives of Windsor" at the Gaiety. This latter production (to which we briefly referred last week) is intended by the spirited manager, Mr. Hollingshead, to form the staple commodity of his Christmas bill of fare. We congratulate him upon his choice and the important part he is assuming in the resuscitation of the legitimate drama. Of all Shakspeare's comedies "The Merry Wives of Windsor" is perhaps the most farcical, not excepting even the "Taming of the Shrew" amended and popularised by David Garrick, under the title of "Katherine and Petruchio." From the rise to the fall of the curtain the play abounds in humour, not always of the most refined character, but sterling, racy, and richly enjoyable. Some of the characters are but reproductions from previous plays by the same author; others appear before us for the first time as fresh, distinct personalities. Sir John Falstaff, for instance, figures in the first and second parts of "King Henry IV," in the latter of which he describes himself as "not only witty myself, but the cause that wit is in other men." Verily a boastful knight, whose vanity is in proportion to his corpulence. In "King Henry V," his death being announced elicits from Bardolph, one of his followers, the involuntary exclamation, "Would I were with him, where some'er be it—either in heaven or in hell!" When we remember, in "The Merry Wives of Windsor," the fat knight's endeavour, for the love of gain, to encompass the dishonour of his neighbour Ford's wife, we think it probable the zealous retainer will need to seek his master in the warmer region; but when, on the instant, Dame Quickly rejoins, "Nay, sure, be't not in hell; be't in Arthur's bosom, if ever man went to Arthur's bosom. 'A made a finer end, and went away, an it had been any Christom child,'" we are inclined to alter our opinion and think that the lying, sensuous knave must have had some good in him after all. Thus Falstaff is presented in some of our dramatist's masterpiece productions. The two merry wives, who conspire to bring about the knight's degradation and prove the truth of their own proverb, that "Wives may be merry and yet honest too," are entirely new creations, and belong exclusively to this drama, while the character of Sweet Anne Page, the object of so much tender adoration, is one of those delicate morsels which Shakspeare especially delights in conjuring up.

The rôle of Falstaff in the present revival falls to the lot of Mr. Phelps, unquestionably one of our greatest living interpreters of Shakspeare. In tragedy he stands foremost in the field, while a host of admirers follow in the wake of his comic assumptions. His Falstaff is a thoroughly original performance, possessed of life and individuality, and presenting throughout an exhibition of dry humour that irresistibly excites the risible faculties of the audience. The identity of the actor is entirely lost in the impersonation, and we have before us the real living Falstaff as Shakspeare drew him, and not merely an ingenious counterfeit in the person of a well-known popular comedian. Miss Furtado, as Anne Page, looked the character to the life, acting with an archness and naïveté that enchanted her audience, and left them no room to marvel at the many love-sick swains that were dying for her favour. The two merry wives

were excellently rendered by Mrs. John Wood and Miss Rose Leclercq, while Dame Quickly received ample justice at the hands of Mrs. Leigh. Mr. Herman Vezin gave a forcible and artistic rendering of Mr. Ford, the jealous husband. Mr. Cecil's Dr. Caius was also a highly-finished performance. Altogether, the cast was unexceptionable. As an additional attractive feature in the entertainment a song is introduced by Algernon Charles Swinburne, composed by Mr. Arthur Sullivan, who also supplies some characteristic music to the last act. We are not generally in favour of interpolations of the kind, inclining to the belief that our great master dramatist is strong enough to rest upon his own merits; nevertheless, we admit that in this instance the interpolation is effective. The piece has been produced under the superintendence of Mr. Phelps; the scenery and dresses are of a costly nature; and we augur that the result will give Mr. Hollingshead no cause to regret his hazardous experiment.

THE PANTOMIMES.

Were we, like Jaques, in one of his moralising moods, to indulge a sentimental disposition that readily finds "sermons in stones," might we not discover piety in a pantomime, and as much "good" in a harlequinade as in "everything" else? Every skilful concocter of a pantomime feels that he must provide a meaning for it, and that its idlest scene must have a significance. True, it is the product of the wildest fancy; but then fancy is a sacred faculty. To it we are indebted for Spenser's "Faerie Queene," and Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream," works which symbolise spiritualism the most abstruse. In other works of the same poets we recognize a yet higher power, which we name imagination. The distinction between the two faculties is well drawn by Wordsworth, in his celebrated preface, which, however, is somewhat improved upon by Coleridge's commentaries. Into such disquisitions, of course, we cannot now enter; but we may suggest that there may be more in a pantomime than meets the ear or the eye. Doubtless the children who scream with delight at its extravagant incidents imbibe also, at the same time, much of its inner spirit; and thus it is made to subserve the profitable education of the rising generation, and that after more than a mere secular manner. Of modern pantomime-writers who have thought thus worthily of pantomime-writing, and carried their thoughts into act and scene, Mr. E. L. Blanchard claims the highest rank. His openings are always carefully written, and his rhymed couplets emulate the elegance of Pope's, in "The Rape of the Lock" and "The Dunciad." True, the satire is of the mildest form, and ought to be; else, wherefore is the disguise of allegory assumed? To this delightful author, therefore, let us give the place which he has so fairly won, and treat, in the first instance, of his chief production.

DRURY LANE.

The modern pantomimist appears to care little for novelty of subject or title; rather he seems to delight in investing the undying old with fancies ever new. "Aladdin; or, The Wonderful Lamp," suffices the master's purpose, and he works the theme in obedience to his own self-imposed law, and finds that he succeeds marvellously well. The old streets of Canton are filled with new inhabitants, under old names, and others more familiar are transfigured by the poet's art. Here, too, the player must come in for his share of praise; much of the novelty depends on his skilful make-up and creative originality. The Vokes family give an air of freshness to everything they undertake. Mark how they furnish forth the dramatis-personae of the old familiar story. Miss Victoria Vokes is Aladdin; Mr. Frederick Vokes, Abanazar, the magician; and Mr. Fawdon Vokes his obedient slave. Miss Rosina Vokes is the Princess Badroulbadour. A Chinese chorus and dance embellish the opening scene; and in the Garden of Jewels, interpreted by a ballet of gems, the eye of childhood must rove with equal wonder and pleasure. The Lord Chamberlain has recently taken under his governance the direction of ballet dresses; we trust that he thoroughly approves of the grand procession in which the Emperor of China and the Princess make prominent figures. The transformation scene is a credit even to Mr. W. Beverley, representing as it does the "Bright Region of Fan Ta-See," as illuminated by the "Rays of the Wonderful Lamp." It is, in fact, a practical pun, inasmuch as a multitude of fans of indescribable shape and variety develop into a glorious show of female beauty, in the most graceful of attitudes and the loveliest of costumes. In addition to the performers we have named, we must bestow a word of commendation on Miss Harriet Coveney, who did indescribable things as the mother of Aladdin; and on Miss A. Burville, who sang the "Brightest of Gems" in a manner that enchanted the house. The harlequinade, also, was full of humorous incident; and the whole performance was of the costliest description, and will command the most liberal patronage.

COVENT GARDEN.

Under the management of Mr. Charles Rice, the most ambitious form of pantomime has been attempted. The old familiar nursery tale serves the manager's purpose, as conveyed in the title of his piece—"The Babes in the Wood, and the Big Bed of Ware." The last element is worked in a most extraordinary manner, and affords room for the most grotesque pantomimic horrors. But we are anticipating. The house was crowded on Boxing Night with an anxious and expectant audience. The drama commences in the chamber of the cruel uncle, Sir Rollingstone (Mr. Fred Gould), who has outrun his resources, and now has to seek help to restore them. Among his advisers is Grubgrabber the Greedy (Mr. J. Wainwright), who deals in alliterative oaths which for the most part are amusing. But they have an efficient opponent in good Mother Bunch (Miss Rebecca Isaacs). Ere long the scene changes to Ware Hall, where a huge Christmas pie is prepared. The accessories of this scene are wonderful. Rats, mice, black-beetles, all of colossal size, infest the premises. But it is to the banquet-chamber in Ware Hall that public attention will be most directed, with its feastings and its revellings, its masks and mummers, and its processions, concluding with an allegory of the seasons, in which hundreds of children unite in dance and song. These are succeeded by a number of dancers, in costumes imitated by Mrs. Charles Rice from the Harleian MS. in the British Museum. This is really a gorgeous scene. To Grubgrabber is committed the task of abducting the children, who makes for the Frozen Dyke of Dunmow. Here a grand ballet takes place, the Vestals of the Snow, all clad in dazzling white, performing the mystic rite. Mr. Rice has ventured on a bold innovation in placing the time in the winter when the children died; but he brings in the robins, nevertheless, who cover them with leaves, while a choir of white-robed angels celebrate their heavenly ascent. Far different is the end of Sir Rollingstone, who dies in the big Bed of Ware, haunted with hobgoblins in the most extraordinary manner, converting even the bedposts into objects of nightmare terror. The transformation scene is superb; fairies are discovered among the golden fern, as it gradually unfolds and reveals its rich contents. More developments follow, which it were idle to attempt to describe in words. Mr. Julian Hicks, the artist, has certainly achieved a singular

triumph by this invention. The general acting of the pantomime is so excellent that it is needless to specify individuals. The harlequinade is particularly good, and induced the immense audience to remain in their places to the conclusion.

THE PRINCESS'S.

Here, as we have already announced, Mr. Chatterton has selected for the subject of his pantomime that of "Beauty and the Beast," associating therewith, as the manner now is, the sub-titular topics of "Gog and Magog, the Butterfly Prince, and the Realm of Flowers." The Brothers Grimm have done their utmost to produce mirth. Having introduced us to Guildhall by moonlight, we find Gog and Magog discussing matters with the Happy New Year—such matters as Temple Bar (severely satirised), Father Thames, and the Northumberland House Lion. We next pass to the Rose Palace, in the garden of flowers, really a most picturesque scene. A ballet of flowers, headed by the Hungarian dancers, enlivens the action at this point, and we feel that we are fairly set in for the pantomime action. Prince Flutterwing, excellently acted by Miss Dorling, is found guilty of trifling with the love of Princess Rosebud (Miss Ann Murray), and is justly made a prisoner, his chains, however, being of flowers, transformed into a beast, and not released until he has been accepted a lover by a young and beautiful lady. Mr. Belmore is great as the merchant O'Kriki, and bestows gracefully the simple rose chosen as a parting gift by his daughter Zemira (Miss Kate Vaughan), a lady whom we may justly praise both for her singing and dancing. Papa now proceeds on his journey, and we meet with him in the Beast's Palace, Zoological Gardens, where visitors are requested "not to touch the flowers." O'Kriki is, of course, provoked by this notice to offend, and thereby falls into the Beast's power (vide Illustration), and for his deliverance has to promise his daughter's hand. What follows on this is indescribable; ultimately O'Kriki goes mad, and displays the straw on his head, which is evidently turned. Zemira, however, compassionates her sire's dreadful state, accepts the alternative, and in the beast weds none other than the Prince Flutterwing. The transformation scene presents the Nuptial Bower of Beauty in the Abode of the Seasons—a scene by Mr. F. Lloyd's, of the utmost merit. The whole performance is of first-rate excellence, and proved to be greatly successful with the audience.

ADELPHI.

Another version of the Norfolk tragedy, under the title of "Harlequin, the Children in the Wood, Old Father Aesop, Cock Robin, and Jenny Wren." The noted sage flourishes in an introductory scene, accompanied with banners inscribed with the title of his fables, and is visited by the Fairy Mistletoe; but their converse is interrupted by Little Meg, who tells them of the rivalry between Cock Robin and Cock Sparrow, and Jenny Wren's preference for the former, who, however, is soon killed by his malicious rival. Another theme becomes needful, and that of the present pantomime is adopted. Then follows a grand ballet of fairy birds, in costumes representing their plumage. The wicked uncle is here called Sir Gabriel Grimwood, and the scene is placed in Hertfordshire, in the neighbourhood of Ware. We are next taken to the New River, the home of Daddy Jack (Mr. Calhaem), who sings "The Ten Little Niggers," and in despair engages himself to Sir Gabriel for the disposal of the children (vide Illustration). But he is destined to be thwarted by Walter Trueheart (Miss Sylvia Hodson), the lover of Barbara Allen (Miss Hudspeth). Mother Bunch, also, Dame Trot, and the cat Tommy are combined against him. Sir Gabriel consoles himself with drink, and secures a nightmare, which produces a vision, in imitation of the trial scene in "The Bells." The children who have fallen asleep are carried off to the Home of the Nereids, and here a grand transformation scene brings the pantomime to a conclusion, and introduces an excellent harlequinade, the comic scenes of which are signally good.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

"Cinderella," Mr. Blanchard's pantomime at the Crystal Palace, culminates in beauty in its chaste and lovely transformation scene, from the magic brush of Mr. Brew, to whose fairy-like work of art we called attention in noticing the first performance in our last Number. It is the central group from the ball-room scene, however, that Mr. Fiston includes in his pictorial page from the pantomimes. To this ball the Prince (Miss Caroline Parkes) has invited Baron Pimpolino and his two eldest daughters (respectively enacted with much grotesque fun by Mr. W. H. Payne and Mesdames Cook and Jones); but, in accordance with the favourite nursery story, hither also comes Cinderella (Miss Alice Mansfield) in the famous miniature carriage made out of a pumpkin, escorted by her faithful esquire Pedro (humorously represented by Mr. Fred Payne). The Prince falls in love with the beautiful unknown Princess, to the dismay of her elder sisters; and, ere the fatal hour of twelve strikes, and Cinderella drops her glass slipper in her flight, an original "Terpsichorean game of cards" takes place, much to the amusement of the hundreds of laughing little ones who throng the Crystal Palace during the Christmas holidays.

CHARING-CROSS.

Miss Carry Nelson and her burlesque company have been secured for a brief engagement of twelve nights, and, accordingly, we have here a new version of "Aladdin; or, the Wonderful Lamp," by Mr. Frank Green, to which a Mr. Henry Robinson acts as "a reviser"—an attendant poet, it seems, charged with the duty of supplying topical illusions on proper occasions. The jokes, indeed, are brought down to the present hour. In this manner the Lord Chamberlain's circular as to the scanty dresses of operatic artists is included. Miss Carry Nelson and her troupe are not transgressors of this class. Aladdin, in the course of the action, becomes a London shodblack, and his brother and uncle ragged imitative Christy minstrels, performing in the open air in front of the Nelson column in Trafalgar-square. Ultimately fortune favours Aladdin. The success of the trifles is due to the selection of music by Mr. Henry Reed. Miss Carry Nelson is an actress after the type of Mrs. John Wood, and sings with effect parodies on "Sweet spirit, hear my prayer" and "A Dream of Love." Much was owing, too, to the humour of Mr. F. W. Irish, who personated the Widow Mustapha, and delivered himself of a comic song about "Poor Mrs. Somebody" and a spider which she had inadvertently swallowed. The general performance was good.

HOLBORN.

A new pantomime was produced here, entitled "Sinbad the Sailor; or, Harlequin the Old Man of the Sea, the Roc and the Lilliputians of the Island of Opera-Bouffe," by Mr. H. P. Grattan. The action commences with the Home of the Black Ants, who are undergoing schooling; to them arrives the King of the country, Cocoa Kalkilate, full of his project of making war on the Queen of the Green Ants. A review of her army takes place, during which Sinbad (Miss Maggie Brennan) enters, and is taken under the protection of her Majesty. He is borne by the Roc to the Diamond Valley, and afterwards to the Island of Opera-Bouffe, where in vision he is made to see a series of such productions, commencing with "Chilperic" and ending with "Girofle-Girofia," and also a mimic Hamlet,

played by a very young lady. The scenery is exceedingly good, and does great credit to Messrs. F. Fenton and Johnson; and the acting altogether was spirited, particularly that of Miss Maggie Brennan. To her, in fact, the success of the piece must be ascribed.

SURREY.

We always expect a good pantomime at the transpontine theatre, nor will the public this year be disappointed. Mr. Holland has acted up to the traditions of the theatre. The pantomime is written by Mr. Frank Green, who has selected for his subject and title "The Forty Thieves and the Court Barber; or, Harlequin and the Five Tiny Pigs, the Sad Little Pigs, and the Fairies of the Laburnum Lake." The Payne family are engaged in its illustration; Messrs. Grieve and Sons supply the scenery; and "little Espinosa" the ballet. The opening presents a pretty rural scene, but its inhabitants are pig-headed. Some of these are represented by Mr. T. Elliott and others of the family. Mr. W. H. Payne appears as Alley Barber, and Mr. Fred Payne as Gamem, his son, who purchase a donkey, which they take to Bagdad. The Haunt of the Fairies of the Laburnum Lake is a fine set scene, beautifully painted, and introduces us to Titania, queen of Fairyland, and also to the Misses Elliott as dancers. The donkey is utilised in the wood scene near Bagdad, where Abdallah and his band appear, splendidly accoutred. The interior of the cavern, with all its riches, is disclosed, a really magnificent display; and here the thieves sit in judgment on Cassim. The forty are dressed in splendid armour, and the whole arrangement produces a dazzling effect. But they have to await the vengeance of Morgiana, which puts an end to their lawless ascendancy. The Bower of Queen Titania forms the transformation scene, which is peopled with fairies. The harlequinade shows, as usual, Mr. Harry Payne, as Clown, in all his glory. The whole affair is one of great elaboration, and merits a prolonged success.

NATIONAL STANDARD.

"Robinson Crusoe and his man Friday" forms the theme of Mr. John Douglass's Christmas pantomime, which carefully retains the salient points of the old familiar story. After an introduction we arrive at Crusoe's farm, and witness the squabbles of the hero and his wife. The latter has been three times a widow, and her family extends to thirty-two members. The eldest girl has two sweethearts, one of whom seeks the removal of Crusoe, and procures his arrest by a pressgang. A splendid view of Wapping in the Olden Time follows, and here Crusoe bids farewell to his country. The ship is seen to sail out of dock, fully rigged and manned. Here is an opportunity for a nautical ballet, with illustrations of naval tactics, managed with great originality and spirit. The vessel proves to be a slaver, with Friday as a prisoner on board, whom Crusoe releases and engages as his servant. An attempt is made to scuttle the vessel, Crusoe and Friday resist the conspirators; but the ship breaks up, and then we have the open sea, with a moving panorama representing Crusoe's journey to his landing on the unknown island. The course of Defoe's story is then adhered to as to the island adventures. There is a grand Indian procession also, numbering more than 250 persons. We cannot follow the variations of the story, but hasten to the conclusion, where Crusoe, asleep, has a vision of the inhabitants of the mystic isle, forming a spectacular display of wonderful brilliance. The transformation scene shows the transition from storm to sunshine, including five distinct mechanical changes. Altogether, this pantomime is a gorgeous production.

GRECIAN.

At this house the Christmas pantomime is always a great feature, and much care and cost are expended on its production. The title of the present is "Snip-Snap-Snorum; or, Harlequin Birds, Beasts, and Fishes." It is something nowadays to secure a novel title to a work of this kind; but Mr. G. Conquest and H. Spry have accomplished the feat. The work is altogether of a superior class, and can boast wit of dialogue as well as the fun of situation. The interest turns, of course, upon a lovely lady and a courteous gentleman and his rival. There is much, too, of transmigration, both the King and his victim assuming a variety of animal forms. Mr. Conquest takes many shapes, from a bird to a monkey. There is, as usual, in Mr. Conquest's actions a phantom fight, in which he and his son are the principal figures. Never was there more skill and agility displayed on the boards. No doubt the piece will have immense success.

We must now content ourselves with brief notices of the remaining pantomimes; their number precludes any attempt at further analysis. At the Victoria we may register the title of an exceedingly good production—namely, "Jack and Jill; or, Harlequin Robin Hood and the Lady of the Castle." Mr. William Frewer is the manager, and deserves praise for his spirit and intelligence. At the Marylebone Mr. Cave has given us "Little Boy Blue Come Blow Your Horn, and the Fairies who Found Him Asleep in the Corn." The author is Mr. Charles Merion, and the interest of the piece is chiefly pastoral. The New Albion selects "The Sleeping Beauty; or, Harlequin Peter Wilkins and the Flying Women of Wonderland," written by Mr. G. H. George. At Greenwich "Little Bo-Peep" does credit to its author, Mr. W. S. Ransom. Sanger's (late Astley's) rejoices in "Aladdin; or, the Wonderful Lamp," a rhyming drama by Mr. H. Spry. The Britannia has managed a new title, "The Black Statue, or, The Enchanted Pells and the Magic Apple." The Pavilion is content with "Cinderella," apparently this season a favourite theme with pantomimists.

WINTER AMUSEMENTS.

The active and healthy exercise of skating is to many persons of both sexes a compensation for the less agreeable experiences of outdoor life at this season. On a piece of frozen water in one of the London parks, or in any other convenient situation, it is pleasant to see the nimble motions of so many expert ladies and gentlemen cutting their way in every direction with steel-shod feet. Here, as our Artist has truthfully represented, we find a crowd of mingled performers and aspirants or pretenders, displaying a curious variety of temperament and disposition. Some are easy, brave, and confident of their skill, while others, affecting to be so, cannot disguise their dread of a probable fall, or their anxiety lest the ice should give way beneath their passing weight. The couple now executing a graceful hand-in-hand dance together may in another moment roll beside each other on the slippery floor of their al fresco ball-room. The bearded hero lighting his cigar with a match supplied by the attendant lucifer-boy is one of a heavy build, who may presently hear the crack of doom below and around him, while he drops suddenly into an undesirable cold bath, at least up to the armpits. The young lady we see hovering softly forward, with muff and parasol imperfectly poised in her hands, seems destined to an awkward tumble. As for her to whose neat bottines the gimlet is applied at this moment, for the purpose of fixing a pair of skates, we cannot guess her degree of proficiency, but we hope she will enjoy the intended pastime.



NEW BOOKS.

LIVINGSTONE'S LAST JOURNALS.

It will be long ere the British public forget the most recent acts in David Livingstone's career of peaceful though adventurous heroism. The search, again and again renewed, for him who had plunged, out of sight of European society, into the wilderness of Central Africa, kept up our anxious expectation during several years. One expedition after another was despatched on this worthy quest in vain, till a fortunate American newspaper reporter, arriving by the route of the Arab traders from Zanzibar on the shores of Lake Tanganyika, met with the solitary explorer on his return from a long course of wanderings in the remote interior. They met and parted: Livingstone bade farewell, in March, 1872, to the only companion of civilised life he had seen during six years of travel, and turned once more to the far region of the mysterious lakes and rivers, visited by himself alone. Another year passed over that lonely head of the self-sacrificing labourer for Christian humanity and geographical science. In March, 1873, he wrote in his private journal, "Nothing earthly will make me give up my work in despair; I encourage myself in the Lord my God, and go forward." But fever and dysentery, caused by frequent exposure to wet, and by the fatigue of incessant toil, as well as by the unwholesome climate, sapped his bodily strength. He soon became unable to walk or ride, and was carried on the shoulders of his native servants. They halted on the banks of the Molilamo or Lulimala, in the district of Ilala, which is under the rule of a chief named Chitambo. Here the dying traveller was laid by his faithful attendants, Chuma and Susi, under the shelter of a hut built of grass and sticks. His spirit lingered yet several days in the failing frame of flesh. On the first day of May he was found dead, in the attitude of prayer, kneeling at his bedside, the face covered with the hands resting on the pillow. He had arrived at the end of his lifelong journey; he had gone home. Seven years had elapsed since he last struck inward from the sea-coast, up the course of the Rovuma, to examine the unknown interior of that vast continent. His journals of this period are now before us.

These two volumes, published by Mr. Murray, bear the following title: "The Last Journals of David Livingstone in Central Africa, from 1865 to his Death; continued by a Narrative of his Last Moments and Sufferings, obtained from his faithful servants, Chuma and Susi, by Horace Waller, F.R.G.S., Rector of Twywell, Northampton." The journals and narrative are illustrated by two maps. The larger of these maps, loose in a pocket of the first volume, shows the actual field of Livingstone's most recent discoveries, from the east coast to the farther river, called by him Webb's Lualaba, beyond Lake Kamolondo, and between the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth degrees of east longitude. It takes in fourteen degrees of latitude, from Lake Victoria Nyanza down to the Zambezi; and the devious course of Livingstone's journeys, to and fro, up and down, from the beginning of 1866 to his death in 1873, is distinctly marked. The other map, in the second volume, presents a general view of the whole breadth of the continent, including the Upper Nile at Gondokoro, with Lake Albert Nyanza, as well as all the regions explored by Livingstone during a quarter of a century; the Zambezi and Shiré, the Leeba or Leambye, with the westward highlands, towards Congo and Angola; again, the region of Lake Nyassa, and that of Lake Tanganyika, which are comparatively accessible from the east coast; and the interior system of Lakes Bangweolo, Moero, Kamolondo, and Chibungo or Lincoln, connected by the Lualaba and other rivers, for which he imagined an outflow to the Nile. Though he was probably mistaken on that point, and his actual knowledge of the northern parts remained very imperfect, this map affords a good idea of his very extensive contributions to African geography. Each volume is further adorned with more than twenty wood engravings, mostly designed from rough sketches by Livingstone, of the scenes which he beheld, the landscape views, the figures, costumes, dwellings, furniture, instruments, and gestures of native people, and some incidents of his travelling life amongst them. A lifelike and spirited portrait of Livingstone, from a photograph taken when he was last in this country, is prefixed to the first volume. We find also, in the facsimile representations of his handwriting, from pages of his journal, an interesting personal memorial of so good and brave a man. The book will be most eagerly read by a large number of his countrymen with the same feeling of reverent admiration that was manifested by all upon the occasion of his funeral at Westminster Abbey.

BOOKS ON ART.

A new, revised, remodelled, and in part rewritten, edition of Kugler has been published (Murray)—not before it was wanted. Nineteen years have elapsed since the last or third edition appeared of that section of the well-known "Handbook" relating to the Italian schools, which was enriched with a fuller account of Christian art in the earliest times by Dr. Jacob Burckhardt, and revised by the late Sir Charles Eastlake; and it is fourteen years since the publication of Dr. Waagen's remodelled section relating to the German, Flemish, and Dutch schools. During these years there has been no department of history to which more important additions have been made, or in which more numerous corrections have been proved to be required, than in that of post-antique art. The researches of Messrs. Crowe and Cavalcaselle, as embodied in the five volumes of their "History of Painting in Italy," have in many respects created a revolution in the history of early art in the peninsula; and probably their labours will be equally fruitful when they come to deal with other and later masters of the Cinque-Cento, and to further correct the careless or mendacious statements of Vasari. A great addition to our knowledge will also doubtless be yielded by the new biography of Michael Angelo from a multitude of hitherto inedited documents which is being compiled as part of the projected commemoration this year of the four-hundredth anniversary of the great master's birth. Recent researches, so far as they have been made known, are, however, ably embodied by Lady Eastlake in the new edition of Kugler's history of the Italian schools under notice. And the materials used comprise, we are told, besides the work by Messrs. Crowe and Cavalcaselle above named, careful notes made by Sir Charles Eastlake during his frequent visits to Italy, together with valuable memoranda of the late Mr. Mündler—who was so meanly dismissed by the Government of the day from his ill-paid post on the staff of our National Gallery. When fresh materials have accumulated we hope to see yet another edition of this popular handbook of the Italian schools from the same accomplished editor. The new edition of that portion of the handbook which treats of the Northern schools has been thoroughly revised and in part rewritten by Mr. J. A. Crowe, and more need hardly be said in its recommendation. A vast amount of new light is thrown on these schools and on the lives of many of their respective masters. Mr. Crowe justly says that much that was accepted as historical and true in 1860 is now looked upon as fabulous or doubtful; and he gives a mass of evidence in proof of the necessity for revising Dr. Waagen's text. We may add that the four volumes of this new edition

are embellished with a largely increased number of wood engravings.

We have already intimated that an official life of Michael Angelo is to be published this year by the Italian Government. It is somewhat surprising, therefore, to find, on the eve of such a publication, a work submitted to the public entitled *Michael Angelo Buonarroti, Sculptor, Painter, Architect. The Story of his Life and Labours.* By Charles Christopher Black, M.A. (Macmillan and Co.) It is probable that such a work will shortly be found to be inaccurate and defective, at least in details, and consequently superseded. Mr. Black's modesty should, however, protect him from harsh criticism. He says that he has advisedly entitled the book a "story" in order to imply that he lays no claim for it to the higher and graver title of a biography. To the objection we have hinted he pleads that his "object has been to record the usually (and probably correctly) accepted facts of the artist's life as hitherto known, and to commemorate the impressions produced by a reverential study of his works during a lengthened residence in Florence and Rome." Within the scope he allowed himself under these conditions Mr. Black has performed his task with taste and judgment, dealing rather with the salient facts of the artist's life as hitherto credited than attempting a profound or exhaustive analysis of his genius; producing, in short, a book the letterpress of which accords well with the handsome exterior and photographic illustration, and which is better suited to the drawing-room table than the closet of the student. The volume was probably intended as a companion to "The Life of Leonardo da Vinci," by Mrs. Heaton, published a year or two since, to which Mr. Black contributed a scholarly essay on the master as a natural philosopher and scientific discoverer and inventor.

For young persons who desire to acquire a general knowledge of the history of art—understanding the word to include music as well as painting, sculpture, and architecture—we may commend "The Elementary History of Art," by N. d'Anvers (Asher and Co.), as comprehensive and generally trustworthy, despite minor deficiencies and a rather dogmatic statement of the opinions, a few of which are mere antiquated prejudices or exploded fallacies. The framework and the majority of the numerous illustrations are borrowed, with the permission of the publishers, from a small "Guide to the History of Art," which has long been in use in German schools.

We are glad to announce that a third edition, "revised by the author," has been published of another educational book—namely, Mr. W. B. Scott's "Half-Hour Lectures on the History and Practice of the Fine and Ornamental Arts" (Longman, Green, and Co.). The lectures to art-students which formed the basis of this handy and (to those for whom it was designed) most useful book, were delivered to the students of the School of Art at Newcastle-on-Tyne during the period that Mr. Scott was master of that school. About that time, the author gave a conclusive proof of his practical capacity in art in the peculiarly original and inventive series of wall-paintings which decorate Wallington Hall, the seat of Sir W. Calverley Trevelyan, Bart. It is to experimental knowledge of art in this and other departments that Mr. Scott's lectures owe much of their practical value and directness. At the same time, the opinions on artistic theories which the book contains are, if we cannot always agree with them, frequently remarkable for a shrewd sagacity and common sense that are but seldom found in contemporary art-criticism. Moreover, nearly every page affords evidence, though quite unostentatiously, of extensive reading; and the information is conveyed with a clearness and conciseness which show that Mr. Scott possesses the rare faculty of the teacher in a high degree.

The powers of the Endowed Schools Commissioners are transferred to the Charity Commissioners, and the several persons will cease to hold office.

At a meeting of Liberals of East Kent, on Monday, it was resolved not to contest the seat rendered vacant by the elevation of the Hon. Mr. Milles to the peerage.

St. Ives has chosen another Conservative representative in place of its late member, Mr. Praed having, on Monday, defeated his Liberal opponent, Sir Francis Lycett, by 65 votes. The respective totals were—Praed, 617, and Lycett, 552.

The *Gazette* announces that her Majesty has approved the appointment of Major-General Evelyn Henry Frederick Pocklington to be Director-General of Military Education, in succession to Lieutenant-General Napier, who resigns.

Colonel Younghusband's special committee on gun-cotton have forwarded their report to the Secretary for War. They recommend gun-cotton as a valuable explosive both for military and naval purposes. With regard to safety of manufacture, storage, and conveyance, it compared favourably with other explosives examined.

The Lords of the Treasury have appointed a committee, comprising Captain Douglas Galton, C.B.; Mr. S. Blackwood, the Financial Secretary to the Post Office; and Mr. F. W. Rowsell, Superintendent of Admiralty Contracts, to investigate the arrangements under which stores are procured for postal and telegraph services.

The Mayor of Grimsby, on Thursday week, presented two gold medals from the French Government, and two medals from the French Aeronautical Society, to the captain and mate of the fishing-smack Grand Charge, who rescued M. and Madame Durouf from their balloon in the North Sea. The Mayor delivered an address eulogistic of the French Government and nation.

More than fifty new collieries are being sunk in Glamorganshire. In several cases very large sums of money have been spent, and several years have been occupied in sinking, but in many cases without a result. On Monday one of these sinkings proved a success, Messrs. Nixon, Taylor, and Co. having won the four-feet seam of steam coal at Merthyr Vale. The pit has been upwards of six years sinking, and coal was won at a depth of 480 yards.

The council of the Society for the Promotion of Scientific Industry, the head-quarters of which are at Manchester, has decided to give gold, silver, and bronze medals for excellence and novelty in the various classes of exhibits at the Exhibition of Implements, Machines, and Appliances for the Economising of Labour, which is to take place in Manchester in 1875. The arrangements for the exhibition are progressing satisfactorily, and space has been secured by many high-class engineering and other firms.

A lecture on cookery was delivered the other evening in the Shodfriars Hall, Boston, by Mr. Buckmaster. The Mayor presided, and expressed himself strongly in favour of young girls being instructed in the art of cookery. A number of ladies subsequently met at the vicarage, and decided to start a cookery school by a system of mutual practical instruction in each others' kitchens. As soon as the necessary arrangements are complete a place will be secured and a school opened for the instruction of girls.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

LORD SONDES.

The Right Hon. George John Milles, fourth Baron Sondes, of Lees Court, in the county of Kent, died, on the 17th ult., in his eighty-first year. He was the second son of Lewis Thomas, second Lord Sondes, by his wife, Mary Elizabeth, only daughter and heir of Richard Milles, Esq., of North Elmham, Norfolk, and was brother to Lewis Richard, late Lord Sondes, whom he succeeded in 1836. He assumed the surname of Milles in lieu of his patronymic, Watson, on inheriting his mother's property, in 1820. His Lordship was J.P. and D.L. for Norfolk, and High Steward of Great Yarmouth, and was also chairman of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company. Lord Sondes married, July 24, 1823, Eleanor, fifth daughter of the late Sir Edward Knatchbull, Bart., and had two sons and five daughters. He is succeeded by his only surviving son, George Watson, M.P. for East Kent (which seat is thus vacated), now Lord Sondes, late Captain Royal Horse Guards, who was born in 1824, married, in 1859, Charlotte, eldest daughter of Sir Henry Stracey, Bart., and has issue. The late Lord Sondes's grandfather, the Hon. Lewis Monson, second son of John, first Lord Monson, assumed the surname and arms of his mother's family, Watson, on succeeding to the estates of his cousin, Thomas, Earl of Rockingham and Viscount Sondes, and was created Lord Sondes May 20, 1760.

LORD ROMILLY.

The Right Hon. John, Baron Romilly, of Barry, in the county of Glamorgan, died, on the 23rd ult., in his seventy-third year. He was second, but ultimately eldest surviving, son of Sir Samuel Romilly, the great jurisconsult, statesman, and philanthropist, by Anne, his wife, daughter of Francis Garbett, Esq., of Knill Court, in the county of Hereford, and belonged to a French Protestant

family, one of the few foreign houses to be found in our Peerage. Having graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge, he was called to the Bar at Gray's Inn in 1827, and soon acquired practice and reputation as a lawyer. In 1848 he was made Solicitor-General, and knighted; in 1850 Attorney-General; and in 1851 Master of the Rolls. In 1866 he was elevated to the Peerage as Baron Romilly. At an early period of life he entered the House of Commons as member for Bridport in the first reformed Parliament, and subsequently, from 1847 to 1852, sat for Devonport. He was sworn of the Privy Council in 1851, and was a bencher of Gray's Inn. Having retired from the Bench, Lord Romilly acted recently as arbitrator in the affairs of the European Assurance Company. His Lordship's son and successor, by Caroline Otter, his wife, daughter of the Bishop of Chichester, William, now second Lord Romilly, was born April 12, 1835, and married, Feb. 9, 1865, Emily Idonea Sophia, daughter of Lieutenant-General Sir John Gaspard Le Marchant.

LORD KESTEVEN.

The Right Hon. John Trollope, Baron Kesteven, of Casewick, in the county of Lincoln, and a Baronet of England, died, at 6, Cavendish-square, on the 17th ult., in his seventy-fifth year. His Lordship was born May 5, 1800, the eldest son of Sir John Trollope, sixth Baronet, of Casewick, in the county of Lincoln, by Anne, his wife, daughter of Henry Thorold, Esq., of Cuxwold, in that county. He was educated at Eton, and early in life

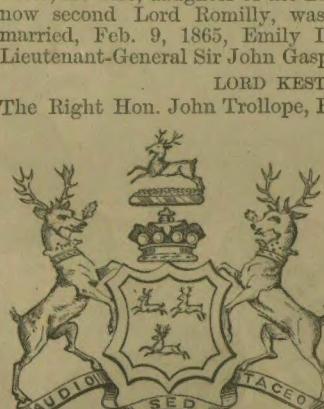
joined the 10th Dragoons; but, soon retiring, he devoted himself to county pursuits, became a J.P. and D.L. for Lincolnshire, served as its High Sheriff in 1825, and was chairman of quarter sessions. His Lordship, being then Sir John Trollope, Bart. (having succeeded his father in 1820), sat, in the Conservative interest, for South Lincoln from 1841 to 1863; was made a Privy Councillor in 1852; and the same year, from February to December, was Chief Commissioner of the Poor-Law Board. In 1868 he was raised to the Peerage as Baron Kesteven. He married, Oct. 26, 1847, Julia Maria, eldest daughter of Sir Robert Sheffield, Bart., and had three sons and three daughters. His eldest son and successor, now John Henry, second Lord Kesteven, was born Sept. 22, 1851. The family of Trollope is one of great antiquity, and is traced back in the county of Durham to the fourteenth century. Anthony Trollope, the distinguished novelist, descends from a younger son of the fourth Baronet of Casewick.

LORD ALBERT LEVESEN GOWER.

Lord Albert Leveson Gower, who died on the 23rd ult., was next brother of the present Duke of Sutherland. He was born Nov. 21, 1843, and served for some time in the 2nd Life Guards, from which he retired as captain. He married, March 19, 1872, Grace, only daughter of Sir Thomas Nevile Abdy, Bart., of Albyns, Essex, and leaves one son, born May 31, 1874.

SIR GEORGE CHOLMLEY, BART.

Sir George Cholmley, seventh Baronet, of Boynton, in the county of York, J.P. and D.L., M.P. for the West Riding 1831 to 1841, and for Preston 1841 to 1847, died on the 24th ult., at Newton Hall, his seat, near Bridlington. He was born Nov. 26, 1782, the son of Sir William Strickland, sixth Baronet, by Henrietta, his wife, daughter and coheiress of Nathaniel Cholmley, Esq., of Whitby and Howsham, and was representative of the ancient baronial family of Strickland of Boynton. He succeeded to the title at the death of his father, Jan. 8, 1834, and assumed by Royal license, March 17, 1865, the surname of Cholmley instead of that of Strickland. With the name Sir George inherited the great Cholmley estate, which, added to his patrimony, rendered him one of the chief landed proprietors in the north of England. He



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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on and after FRIDAY,
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Second-Class Carriages on their Trains.

First-Class Fares will be reduced, except those between the
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Third-Class Passengers will be conveyed by all Trains, as hereto-
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Return Tickets at charges equal to two Single Fares will be
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written notice be given to the station-master, at the departure
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station from whence the train starts, or the previous day if at an
intermediate station. If more than four seats are occupied in a
reserved compartment the additional fares must be paid.

The Great Western Railway Company having refused to adopt
the reduced First-Class Fares proposed by the Midland Railway
Company between the following Stations (which are competitive
between the two Companies):—BIRMINGHAM, CHEDDING-
TON, CHURCHDOWN, DROITWICH, Evesham, FARNELL Heath, Gloucester,
London (St. Pancras), Malvern Wells, Stoke Works, STONEHOUSE,
and Worcester, and thereby being certain agreements between the
two Companies relating to such fares, the Midland Railway Com-
pany have applied to the Railway Commissioners, as Arbitrators,
to sanction Reduced Fares between the above stations, calculated
upon the basis adopted upon all other portions of the Midland
System. The Reduced Scale of Fares will, however, be applied to
and from each of the above-named stations, and all other
stations along the Midland Railway.

Until the decision of the Commissioners is obtained, the Mid-
land Railway Company have no alternative except to maintain
the existing fares between the above stations.
If reduced fares are sanctioned, they will be immediately put in
force. JAMES ALLPORT, General Manager.
Derby, Dec. 24, 1874.

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